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Our Educational Number.

THE issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for August 12 will be the Annual Educational Number. The Editor will be obliged if all who are officially interested in pharmaceutical education and have not communicated with him will let him know of their arrangements. The number will cover medicine, dentistry, veterinary surgery, and science, as well as pharmacy. It will be specially circulated to all such institutions and to hospitals, so that business houses, especially those who cultivate trade in scientific apparatus and other educational requirements, as well as hospital supplies, should take space for announcements in the issue. They must, however, give instructions at once to the Publisher of the *C. & D.*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

THE death of Mr. John Boucher, the well-known Bristol pharmacist, is reported (p. 264).

THE General Index to the "Year-books of Pharmacy" for 1886-1903 is now being issued (p. 260).

AN International Congress of Chemistry and Pharmacy was concluded at Liège on Monday (p. 253).

THE final stage of the provincial tour of the Society of Chemical Industry is recorded on p. 247.

MR. T. H. W. IDRIS has been presented with his portrait in oils by his colleagues and constituents in South St. Paneras (p. 260).

SOME further notes about the Pharmaceutical Conference at Brighton are printed, along with several photographs (p. 254).

THE General Board of Opticians have sent us excerpts from their proceedings during the last six months. We summarise these on p. 265.

TWO men are charged in Manchester with manufacturing saccharin without the authority of the Board of Inland Revenue (p. 262).

"XRAYSER" gives some impressions of the Conference, and refers to Sir John Leng's question in the House about the Poisons Schedule (p. 257).

ARTHUR DEVEREUX, a chemist's assistant, has been found guilty of murdering his wife and twin children, and is to be hanged on August 15 (p. 250).

A CURIOUS case is noted on p. 260, which emphasises the necessity of not being in too great a hurry to make payments to trustees under creditors' deeds.

WE give the chief points from the annual report of the principal chemist of the Government Laboratory which are of interest to pharmacists (p. 259).

THE report of the Inspector-General in Bankruptcy, which is summarised on p. 260, reflects the wave of trade depression through which this country passed in 1904.

THE Sale of Food and Drugs Acts cases reported this week merit general attention. In one case the rare incident occurred of failure of the defendant to appear (p. 262).

THE party of pharmacists who are visiting Paris under the ægis of Mr. W. W. Savage appear to be having a good time. Our Paris correspondent tells what they are doing (p. 248).

CORRESPONDENTS write about the foolishness of chemists stockpiling proprietary articles whose prices are not protected, and which are sold at a loss or little profit. They ask for a general expression of opinion on the subject (p. 263).

THE Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, at the meeting on Wednesday, was mainly concerned in routine work (p. 251). A quorum was not obtained for the Irish Society, and no meeting could be held (p. 246).

IN regard to the discussion at Brighton on Parliamentary representation, we suggest that one of the first things to do in this is to establish a Parliamentary bureau in charge of a smart man, who would collate the opinions of the trade and "feed" M.P.s (p. 258).

AT the meeting of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations it was decided that breaking bulk of stamped medicines should be discouraged. The principal topic was the Parliamentary representation of chemists, as to which Mr. Idris, a potential M.P., made interesting suggestions (p. 266).

THE CHIEF ALTERATIONS in the drug and chemical markets include higher prices for sulphate of copper, ergot, cod-liver oil, and English saltpetre. German refined camphor is lower, quinine is tending easier, and jalap resin is lower. Santonin may advance. The auction of first- and second-hand drugs is fully reported on p. 271.

DR. F. B. POWER and Mr. Frank Tutin have investigated *Aethusa Cynapium* (fool's parsley), and have proved the existence of coniine in it. They isolated an essential oil which rapidly changes from water-white to a brown colour, and also obtained from the plant a hydrocarbon which has not hitherto been found in the vegetable world (p. 268).

THE first Fairchild Scholarship has been awarded to Mr. Samuel L. Scott, who was born in Bermuda and apprenticed in Nottingham. The £7. prizes go to Mr. G. Shaw (England), Mr. J. L. Lyons (Ireland), Mr. John Haig (Scotland), and Mr. T. P. Davies (Wales). A gift of books is also awarded by the donors to Miss A. M. Row, Braintree (p. 244).

Corner for Students.

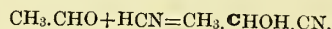
Stereochemistry.

By W. W. TAYLOR, M.A., D.Sc.

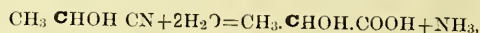
The Synthetic Lactic Acid is Optically Inactive.

ALL the ordinary methods of preparation of lactic acid give the inactive modification, even by the lactic acid fermentation of glucose or cane sugar, both of which are dextrorotatory substances, only optically inactive acid is obtained. The synthetic methods, whether of substitution or addition, also yield the inactive form. A little consideration of the processes involved will show that this is what one would expect.

Thus, propionic acid can be converted into a bromo-propionic acid, and the latter into lactic acid, by substitution of $-Br$ by $-OH$. Propionic acid, $CH_3.CH_2.COOH$, being of the type $Ca_b c$, there is only one arrangement possible, and, if a model be made up to represent it, it will be seen that the two $-H$ atoms united to the middle C atom are exactly alike with respect to the C atom and the two remaining groups. On substituting one of the $-H$ atoms by a $-Br$ atom, the compound is converted into the asymmetric type $C a b c d$, of which there are two enantiomorph modifications; nevertheless, since the two H atoms are identically related to the rest of the molecule, and since, in every chemical reaction, a very large number of molecules is concerned, there will be as many chances for the one atom to be acted upon as for the other, and, in fact, equal numbers of molecules of each configuration are formed, and the resulting acid is inactive. As each of these forms reacts with the same readiness with *e.g.* silver hydroxide, the lactic acid will be also inactive. The same considerations hold good in regard to the formation of lactic acid from acetaldehyde, $CH_3.CHO$. If a model be made up for this, with the C of the CHO group as the carbon atom, the groups $-CH_3$ and $-H$ occupy two of the apices, while the remaining two are united with the $=O$; it is plain the formula is not of the asymmetric type, but is a modification of the type $Ca_b c$, the bivalent atom $=O$ being equivalent to, and taking the place of, two univalent groups a_2 . Now it is a general property of aldehydes that they add on hydrocyanic acid, the hydrogen with the oxygen forming the univalent group $-OH$, and the univalent $-C \equiv N$ group uniting with the carbon atom,



In this case, also, the C atom becomes asymmetric, the four groups being $-CH_3$, $-H$, $-OH$, and $-CN$, but here also consideration of the model will show that there are equal chances for the addition of HCN to take place in the one way, as in the other; accordingly, the product will consist of equal quantities of the two stereoisomers. When this nitrile is saponified, *i.e.* interacts with water in the presence of acids or alkalis, and the $-CN$ group becomes the carboxyl group $-COOH$,



it is obvious that the resulting lactic acid will also be inactive.

In general, then, a compound containing an asymmetric carbon atom, synthetically prepared from an optically inactive compound, whether by processes of substitution or of addition, is optically inactive.

Note to Students.—This series of articles will continue until the end of September, when a set of problems and questions will be submitted for reply by students. Prizes will then be awarded for the best papers sent in.—THE EDITOR.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The Halifax Town Council have appointed Mr. E. W. Smith, B.Sc., Hull, as head of the chemistry department at the Halifax Technical School at the salary of 180*l.* a year.

Owing to so many members being away on holiday, the forest ramble in connection with the West Ham and District Chemists' Association, fixed for August 10, has been abandoned.

Sophia Ethel Bourne (19) was remanded at Penge, on July 27, charged with administering poisonous weed-killer to ten inmates of houses where she had been employed as a domestic servant.

A fire broke out at the works of the United Alkali Co., Runcorn, on July 31, when a plant for the manufacture of carbide of sulphur was almost entirely destroyed, the damage being roughly estimated at several thousands of pounds.

The Public Health Committee of St. Pancras Borough Council has resolved to direct the attention of the Home Secretary to the smallness of the fines inflicted in some of the Metropolitan police courts in cases under the Food and Drugs Acts.

At West London Police Court on August 1, Arthur Alfred Pulford, motor-driver, was fined 3*s.*, and 2*s.* costs, for driving an unlicensed motor-car; and Mr. Anthony Kemp Welch, manager of Schweppes, Ltd., West Kensington, was fined 10*s.*, and 2*s.* costs, for aiding and abetting in the offence.

There were four laudanum bottles in the pockets of a chemist's assistant, named Harvey, fined at Worship Street Police Court on July 29 for inebriety. A witness stated that it was Mr. Harvey's habit to take laudanum, and that he took as much as a quarter of a pound a day.

In the Civil Court at the Kent Summer Assizes last week, Mr. Abraham Lewis Thompson, chemist and druggist, Dover, brought a claim for 300*l.* damages against a builder and decorator named White for alleged slander. After hearing the evidence Mr. Justice Bray dismissed the case, with costs for the defendant.

An electrical exhibition on a large scale is to be held at Olympia, London, from September 25 to October 21. Sir William H. Preece is the President of the Organisation Committee, and we are informed that nearly all the space has already been taken up. The present offices of the exhibition are Balfour House, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.

The first university scholarship ever offered in Scarborough was awarded to David Gilchrist, sixteen years of age, son of Mr. R. Gilchrist, chemist (Secretary of the Scarborough Chemists' Association), and a pupil at the Municipal School. He has 60*l.* a year allocated to him for three years' training at the Leeds University or some other university chosen by the successful candidate. Mr. D. Gilchrist has also passed the London Matriculation examination.

Alleged Saccharin Smuggling.

At Thames Police Court, on July 29, Barnett Cornblatt, of 3 Philpott Street, Mile End, was charged with smuggling 776 oz. of saccharin, the treble value and duty of which amounted to over 300*l.*, with intent to defraud His Majesty's Customs. John Beard, an examining officer of Customs, stated on a case, supposed to contain enamel-ware, arriving at Cannon Street Railway Station from Folkestone, it having been sent from the Continent, he examined the contents, and found two tins containing the quantity stated of saccharin in the centre of the case, with goods packed all round them. The witness having satisfied himself as to the contents of the tins, refastened the case, which was then put on a van and taken to the defendant's address, which was on the label. The witness saw the accused receive the case and sign the weigh-bill, whereupon he was taken into custody. Mr. Dickinson (the Magistrate) remanded prisoner in order that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue might take up the prosecution.

Fairehild Scholarship and Prizes.

The examination held on July 11 was conducted at Cardiff by Mr. A. Hagon; Dublin, Mr. W. F. Wells; Edin-

burgh, Mr. Peter Boa; London, Mr. T. W. Davies; and Manchester, Mr. James Grier. There were fifty-five candidates, and the examiners were, in Business Knowledge, Mr. W. F. Wells; Chemistry, Mr. William Kirkby; Materia Medica, Mr. J. W. Bowen; and Pharmacy, Mr. Peter Boa. We are now informed by Mr. A. E. Holden, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, that in the result the awards are as follows:

Fairchild scholarship (value 50*l.*) awarded to Mr. Samuel Lamplough Scott (with Mr. F. W. Harris, chemist and druggist, 87 Brockley Road, Brockley, S.E.), son of the Rev. Edward Hudson Scott, born in the island of St. Vincent, B.W.I. Registered as a student of pharmacy at Nottingham, and apprenticed to the late C. W. Dixon, of that town.

Four prizes of 5*l.* each are awarded thus:

For England: Mr. Granville Shaw (with Mr. T. Woodruff, pharmaceutical chemist, West Didsbury). Registered as a student of pharmacy at Durham, and apprenticed to Mr. W. Smith there.

For Ireland: Mr. John J. Lyons, 33 High Street, Omagh, co. Tyrone. Registered at Omagh, apprenticed to Mr. John Hay, Lisburn Road, Belfast.

For Scotland: Mr. John Haig, Selee Villa, Dunbar. Registered as a student at Edinburgh, and apprenticed to Mr. J. Gordon Nicholson, Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

For Wales: Mr. Thomas Price Davies, 2 Upper Street, Islington, N. Registered at Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, apprenticed to Mr. E. W. Harris, Merthyr, now with Messrs. Skewes, Ltd., Upper Street, Islington, N.

Mr. Holden informs us that there was one lady competitor, Miss Adelaide Mary Row, registered at Braintree, Essex, and apprenticed to her father, Mr. G. Commins Row, chemist and druggist, Braintree, and in recognition of her excellent papers, and as a tribute to her sex, she is to receive a gift of books, comprising Attfield's "Chemistry," MacEwan's "Art of Dispensing," Remington's "Pharmacy," and White and Humphrey's "Pharmacopodia." The competition has proved to be exceptionally interesting in the results as well as in itself. Of the candidates approximately 25 per cent. made above 75 per cent. marks in all subjects, and 60 per cent. made between 50 per cent. and 75 per cent. marks. In the individual subjects the candidates made the following averages: Chemistry 65 per cent., materia medica 65 per cent., practical pharmacy and prescription reading 64 per cent., and business knowledge 64 per cent.

The Fairchild scholar is registered as a student of pharmacy in London, so that he ranks as an English candidate. Mr. Scott took full marks in materia medica and 98 per cent. in business knowledge, the latter figure being ahead of the rest of the competitors, Miss Row being next to him with 87 per cent. We understand that Mr. Scott's aggregate marks were 422 out of 500, the English prizeman having 412, the Irish 399, Scotch 397, and Welsh 342. It will be remembered that one of the prizes goes to each country; had that not been the case the whole four would have gone to candidates in England, as four of them besides the scholar had 400 marks or over. From these results it is quite apparent that the examination has proved helpful to assistants whether they get prizes or not.

Analysts' Reports.

The Lindsey county analyst (Dr. John Muter) reports that during the past quarter he examined 70 samples of food and drugs, and only 5 were adulterated.

In Nottinghamshire last quarter two samples of tincture of rhubarb, one of sweet spirit of nitre, and one of seidlitz powder were taken for analysis, and the whole of them proved to be genuine.

The public analyst of St. Pancras has examined during the past three months 2 samples of ginger, 2 of arrowroot, and 1 of magnesia. The last-named contained 100 per cent. of magnesium carbonate; the others were genuine.

The Middlesex County Council's quarterly report, approved on July 27, showed that 51 out of 1,116 samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts were adulterated. All the samples of cream of tartar (6), Epsom salts (1), compound liquorice powder (5), seidlitz powder (1), tincture of rhubarb (1), sal volatile (1), and potassium-iodide ointment (1) were found genuine.

East Anglian Notes.

Mr. F. Larder, chemist and druggist, is a leading member of the Cromer Wesleyan Church, and, on behalf of that

body, has handed over a collection of 3*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* to the treasurer of the local Cottage Hospital.

The annual prize-distribution at the Cromer Schools took place last week, when a large and distinguished company assembled, and Mr. D. Davison, pharmaceutical chemist, in a happily-worded speech, proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Birkbeck, who presented the prizes.

The somewhat unusual event of a chemist's stock-in-trade being sold by auction in small lots occurred at North Walsham last Monday. The attendance was not large nor the bidding very spirited. A member of the craft obtained 7½ pints of 90-per-cent. alcohol for 6*s.* 6*d.* The scheduled poems were sold privately to a wholesale house.

A charming garden-party and bazaar was held at Wymondham last week to clear off the remaining balance of a total expenditure of 20,000*l.* on the thorough restoration of the fine old parish church. The event resolved itself into quite a fashionable function. Mr. J. C. Maynard, chemist, was present, and Mrs. Maynard took a very prominent part in the management of the refreshment department, and she received much public and private congratulation on the artistic arrangement of the flowers on the tables.

Holiday-makers at Yarmouth and Lowestoft have recently had an extra inducement to wander along the shore. The proprietors of Horlick's malted milk have caused pebble-shaped boxes to be indiscriminately placed among the sand and shells, and persons finding them have been entitled to gifts of 1*l.*, 10*s.*, 5*s.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*, or a bottle of malted milk according to the value of the coupon enshrined in the "pebble." It has been most amusing to witness at each place the beach crowded with people poring, probing, and picking for these hidden treasures.

The wise men from the east were conspicuous by their absence from the Conference gatherings at Brighton last week. *A propos* of this, a local wielder of the pestle was remarking to a farmer customer on July 25 that he should very much like to be in Brighton just then. "Why, what's on there?" asked the rural gentleman. "The annual meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference," was the reply. "Oh that's all a lot of rot," retorted the man of acres, "I've been to those farmers' meetings; they're no good; they're only an excuse for any amount of drinking."

Messrs. Colman, the famous mustard firm, are this week celebrating their centenary by closing the works from Friday, August 4, to Tuesday next, and are presenting each married workman or widower with 1*l.*, each single man with 12*s.* 6*d.*, and each woman or young person with 7*s.* 6*d.* In addition, each workman who has served fifty years or more gets a further 1*l.* The office staff have the choice of a week's holiday or a week's salary, and handsome examples of the silversmith's art are being presented to the travellers and heads of departments. The pensioned servants are also remembered. What the scheme means may be gathered from the fact that the firm employ over 3,000 hands.

Mr. C. E. Hickes, chemist and druggist, of East Rudham, had an unwelcome visitor early this month. A tramp called for alms at the back door, and on returning had to pass the shop. Observing no one, he coolly walked in, opened a showcase, and helped himself to four briar pipes. Three of these he sold in a public-house some miles away. It was this fact that awakened the suspicion of a policeman, who communicated with Mr. Hickes. The culprit was eventually traced to Lincoln Gaol, where he had been a fortnight in prison, and was brought from there to the custody of the Walsingham police last week. The man was on Monday sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour.

Jarrow Chemists and Early Closing.

On July 27 the chemists and drug-dealers of the borough of Jarrow met together at the Town Hall, under the genial chairmanship of Councillor J. D. Rose, chemist and druggist, to consider the proposed adoption of the Shop Hours Act 1904 in connection with their trade. The Deputy Town Clerk (Mr. T. Batey) attended and explained the steps necessary to be taken by the Corporation before a closing order could be made applicable, and pointed out that even after an order became law the benefit to be derived was very small indeed in the case of the chemists, as the sale of medicines and medical appliances could not be prevented

by the operation of a closing order. After a friendly discussion it was unanimously decided to proceed without the aid of the cumbersome methods provided by the Act, and it was mutually agreed to close the respective places of business at the following hours: Monday 8 P.M., Tuesday and Thursday at 7 P.M., Wednesday at 1 P.M., Friday at 9 P.M., and Saturday at 11 P.M., except on the days immediately preceding Good Friday, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Cricket.

City Mills C.C. (Howards & Sons, Ltd.) v. Kindrug C.C. (Dakin Brothers).—Played at Ilford on July 29. Result: Kindrug 31, City Mills 11.

Allenburys C.C. v. Miranda C.C.—Played on Saturday, July 29, and resulted in an easy victory for Allenburys, the scores being: Allenburys, 101; Miranda, 32.

The Sheffield Pharmacy Athletic Club played Messrs. Davy's team at cricket on Thursday of last week and beat them by thirty runs. A meeting of the Club was held on Monday last to make arrangements for the visit of the Nottingham pharmacists, who are to play them on Thursday.

Notts Chemists v. Lady Bay.—The Nottingham Chemists fared badly against Lady Bay on Thursday, for they could only compile 69 against their opponents' total of 156. The reverse was due largely to a missed chance for Briggs, who made 104, but was given a life at the commencement of his innings. The principal scorers for the Chemists were Lee (19) and Prince (12).

Midland Notes.

At the Stafford Assizes Ada Prosser, a trained nurse, was sent to gaol for six months for selling pills (emplast. plumbi) at Smethwick to a married woman for an unlawful purpose.

A rumour is afloat that the next chair to be endowed at the Birmingham University will be one of applied chemistry. This section is to be housed at Bournbrook, where the extensive buildings are beginning to be visible.

Mr. George Cadbury has presented to Northfield a large tract of land to be used as a recreation ground and to be called Victoria Common. He stipulates that no intoxicants shall be sold on it and that it shall not be closed for more than six days in each year.

Much sympathy will be extended to Mr. Jeffrey Poole, Birmingham, who has just lost his father after a severe attack of angina pectoris. The sad news reached Mr. Poole on his arrival at the Conference at Brighton, and he with Mrs. Poole took the first train back.

Mr. Marshall Freeman, chemist and barrister, Birmingham, is on the education war-path. He thinks it will come as a shock to many ratepayers to know that Birmingham is employing 150 qualified teachers to take care of 7,000 infants under five years of age, and this in spite of 35,000*l.* more being required this year for education.

The Return of Empties.

At the beginning of the year the Manchester Mineral-water Trade Protection Association inaugurated a new system for the preservation of their empty bottles by making an extra charge of 3*d.* per dozen. There was a good deal of grumbling on the part of shopkeepers at first, but the system appears to have worked satisfactorily, for during the half-year the Association had returned to them 870,684 bottles. Lost or diverted stoppers proved the most trouble, and convictions for wrongful usage of stoppers have been secured in several courts, the Magistrate holding that a stopper is part of the covering of the goods, and comes under the protection of the Merchandise Marks Act.

A Serious Offence.

Dr. W. P. Brooks (35) and John Stanton Price (30), described as a chemist, both of Cardiff, after a lengthy hearing at the Glamorgan Assizes on Tuesday, August 1, on a charge of having used an instrument and administered the drug ergot to a girl of fifteen, named Hilda Gladys Harris, with intent to procure miscarriage, were found not guilty. Next day Price was put into the dock on a further charge of committing a criminal assault on the girl. Prisoner through his counsel admitted the offence and expressed regret for the injury he had done to the girl and her family, placed in the custody of the officers of the Court 10*l.* to maintain the girl during her approaching confinement, and agreed to submit to a bastardy order being made against him. The learned Judge said though the case was very nearly as bad as could be, he

felt that if he sent the prisoner to gaol he should perhaps be depriving the girl of the means of supporting her child, and as the prisoner had already had to bear the expense of a trial in which he had been found not guilty, a verdict which, whatever his own private opinion might be, he was bound to accept as conclusive, he thought justice would be met by binding the prisoner over to appear for judgment when called upon. Counsel said prisoner had already been in gaol for three months. Prisoner was then formally bound over and discharged.

Sheffield Notes.

Owing to the demand for *locum-tenentes* for the holidays there is a great scarcity in assistants in Sheffield at the present time.

The Sheffield contingent to the B.P.C. at Brighton are unanimous in their expressions of pleasure with the delightful time arranged for them by the Brighton folk.

Mr. George Thompson, who was formerly with Mr. News-holme, and is now dispenser at the Middlesex Hospital, London, is at present in Sheffield. He has three months' leave during rebuilding operations at the hospital.

Mr. W. J. Jarrard, B.Sc. (London), Assoc. R.C.S., at present engaged in the Chemical Laboratories at the Royal College of Science, London, has been appointed Junior Demonstrator in Chemistry at the University.

At the West Riding Assizes on Friday last, Madeline Aspinall, a Sheffield nurse, was found guilty of the charge of poisoning her mother with laudanum, and was ordered to be kept in custody as a criminal lunatic during his Majesty's pleasure.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The usual monthly meeting of the Council was summoned for August 2 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, but a sufficient number of members did not attend to form a quorum. The following gentlemen attended: The President, Mr. W. F. Wells; the Vice-President, Dr. Walsh; and Messrs. Beggs, Smith, Michie, and N. Johnston.

Postponed.

Mr. M. McDonald, L.P.S.I., has had to postpone the date of the opening of his medical hall and pharmacy at 122 Donegall Street, Belfast, until August 5.

O. Bovril.

A few days ago Sir Wm. Wilson, Surgeon-General, communicated to a Dublin journal his views on Bovril. In the course of his letter he said:

In the report on a city nurse-child's death it is stated that Bovril is "only a stimulant." It is possible that the reporter who took down the proceedings of the Coroner's inquest may have misunderstood the evidence, for in another part of the proceedings it is stated that the child was partly fed on beef tea; and, as the latter is only a stimulant, the reply in question correctly describes it. Bovril stands on a different footing. It is not only a stimulant, but a food of great value, for it contains all the substance of best lean ox-beef. I have used it for years. I have seen it manufactured, and can therefore speak from experience as to its value as a food. I do not for a moment contend that it was a suitable food for a child. I only question the statement that Bovril is "only a stimulant."

Proprietaries in Workhouses.

At the meeting of the Limerick Board of Guardians the Local Government Board wrote stating they observed from the documents forwarded to them in connection with the recoupment out of the Local Taxation (Ireland) Account in respect of their medicine expenditure during the half-year ended March 31 last, that drugs for use in the Limerick Dispensary districts were only ordered once during that period. The account for "extras" amounted to the sum of 36*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, of which about 25*l.* is for proprietary and other new drugs ordered from a local trader and not from the medicine contractors. The Local Government Board requested that the officers concerned be called upon for any observations which they may have to offer. The matter was referred to the doctors and to the dispenser for an explanation.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Antidote to Adder-poison.

Adders are unusually plentiful in Lochar Moss this season, writes an Annandale correspondent, and a boy named Lockerbie (12), who lives at Wallacetown, Trench, was bitten by one in the heel when walking across the Moss near his home barefooted. The wound was not a severe one. A doctor was sent for, and his friends in the interval resorted to a traditional cure by killing a pigeon, splitting its breast open, and applying the warm flesh to the part in order to extract the poison.

Poisoning Crows.

At Dunfermline Sheriff Court on July 27, James Walls, farm overseer, Westerton Farm, Auchterderran, admitted having caused to be laid in a turnip field a quantity of wheat which had been steeped in a solution of strychnine. It was stated that the respondent had been troubled with crows destroying the turnips, and that the offence would not have reached the ears of the police but for the fact that a number of tame pigeons, belonging to a Lochgelly man, had died from the effects of the poison. Sheriff Shennan imposed a modified penalty of 10s., with the option of four days in prison.

Fire.

The shop occupied by Mr. William Ross, chemist and druggist, on the ground floor of a four-storey building in Brandon Street, Motherwell, was completely gutted by fire on July 27. The flames, which seemed to have got a good hold before they were observed, soon reached to the fourth storey, and there seemed a danger of the whole building being destroyed, but the timely arrival of the fire brigade saved the building. The furniture in the rooms above and on the third storey was also destroyed. The greatest excitement and alarm prevailed amongst the residents in the building, and furniture, etc., was hastily carried out. As Mr. Ross's shop was the consulting-room of Dr. Graham, the medical attendant of the United Friendly Societies' Medical Association, much inconvenience will be caused. In the window of the shop was an address of welcome which the Friendly Societies had proposed for presentation to the Lord Mayor of Dublin on his visit to Motherwell next week. It was also destroyed. The damage is estimated at between 1,500*l.* and 2,000*l.*, and is covered by insurance.

Society of Chemical Industry.

The final stage in the provincial trip of the American and Colonial visitors was taken on Thursday, July 27, when, under the guidance of Mr. David Perry, chairman of the Scottish Section, and Dr. Gray, Secretary, they journeyed from St. Enoch to Princes Pier, where they embarked on the *Junio* for a trip up Lochgoil and through the Kyles of Bute. Luncheon and tea were served on board, and on the return journey the American members expressed their appreciation of the hospitality shown to them by their London friends in a tangible fashion, gifts of silver-plate being presented to Mr. A. Gordon Salamon (chairman), Mr. Julian Baker (Secretary), Dr. Julius Lewkowitsch, and Mr. T. Tyrer. The whole travelling arrangements from London to Glasgow were made by Mr. Bratt, of the Midland Railway Co., and his services were also acknowledged by a substantial gift. In the evening the members were the guests of Glasgow Corporation at a reception in the Municipal Buildings, this concluding the round of social engagements. The Lord Provost (Sir J. Wm. Primrose, Bart.) and Lady Primrose, with the Magistrates, received the guests, who afterwards assembled in the banqueting-hall, where the Lord Provost spoke a few words of welcome. He said the very name of chemistry awakened thoughts that were profound, for in the whole circle of the sciences probably no science, and especially in its practical application, has greater witchery and charm than chemistry. He referred to the discoveries chemists have made in regard to the utilisation of by-products in the manufacture of coal-gas, which, he said, is only one chapter in the wondrous story of chemical investigation. Dr. Nichols, in replying for the Society, thanked the Lord Provost for the delightful reference he had made to the

science beloved by all of them, and mentioned in that connection that His Majesty the King, at an interview which he accorded a few of them, touched upon the same subject. Mr. David Perry also thanked the Corporation, and a vote of thanks to the Lord Provost was passed on the motion of Dr. Russell W. Moore, seconded by Dr. Rottenburg. Previous to the speechmaking, Herr Iff's orchestra discoursed music in the banqueting-hall, and a vocal concert was afterwards given by the Glasgow Select Choir, under Mr. J. Millar Craig, conductor. The band of the training-ship *Empress* also rendered a selection of instrumental music in the upper corridor.

The Poisons Record.

THREE of the seventeen deaths by pharmaceutical poisons that have occurred since our last report were caused by hydrochloric acid—the only unscheduled poison used. William Charles Seymour (24), a Camberwell carman, was found poisoned on Hampstead Heath, and a letter in his handwriting found on the body showed that he had taken "Threepennyworth of spirits of salts." Thomas Gott, of Oldham, drank about half a pint of the acid and died in the Infirmary. At Fulham, a Newington pedlar, named Lee, fell down dead in King's Road. A bottle of hydrochloric acid was found in his pocket, and a *post-mortem* examination showed that death was due to corrosive poisoning.—Five suicides by carbolic acid took place. A woman, named Margaret Parker (30), obtained 4 oz. of pure carbolic acid from Mr. W. T. Goldthorpe, assistant to Mr. W. Gowen Cross, pharmaceutical chemist, Mardol, Shrewsbury, under the name of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and she drank it, death being the result. A gardener, named William Edward Outen, poisoned himself with carbolic acid at Rayleigh, Essex. The young wife of a miner, named Thompson, drank a quantity in a fit of temper and died. Sarah Ann Duckworth (37), of Lenton, also drank a fatal quantity of the acid. A considerable sensation was created at Galashiels, N.B., by the suicide with carbolic acid of Mr. William Stirling, assessor to the burgh and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Border Rifle Volunteers.—Laudanum in overdose caused the death of Mrs. Margaret Gibson, of North Broomhill. At the inquest it was stated that a Dr. McFadyan had given a certificate that death was due to cerebral hæmorrhage. Rumours of laudanum poisoning having been circulated, the Coroner interrupted the funeral in order to hold an inquest. A *post-mortem* examination revealed no signs whatever of cerebral hæmorrhage, but there was congestion which might have been caused by laudanum-poisoning. The jury came to the conclusion that death was due to an accidental overdose of laudanum.—Harry Ingram, a farmer, of North Kelsey, poisoned himself with laudanum. The same poison was taken by Eliza Thomas (45), of Plakenhall, Wolverhampton. Evidence was given at the inquest by Mr. Reginald Troughton, manager of Martyns, Ltd., who said he believed that deceased a short time previously had bought laudanum from him "to put in a poultice."—Potassium cyanide was taken with fatal results by the wife of a Dover photographer named Harris, and by Matthew Styer, a Fulham dental surgeon. Evidence was given at the inquest on the latter by Mr. William Pickard, pharmaceutical chemist, 80 North End Road, Fulham, who proved the sale of the cyanide to the deceased.—An unknown man poisoned himself in London Road, Isleworth, by drinking oxalic acid. A Bath woman, given to drunken habits, took in one day a series of sleeping-draughts which her doctor intended to last her for a week. At Swansea a young girl, named Julia Henderson, poisoned herself (with an unnamed poison) because of jealousy. At Edinburgh, Mrs. Kennedy, who had been in a low state of health, drank a quantity of chloroform and aconite lotion, and died in the Royal Infirmary.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, at its Council-meeting on June 15, discussed some alterations in the by-laws. One suggestion was that the members of the Pharmaceutical Council (which organises the general interests of the trade and education) should not be members of the Pharmacy Board which has the administration of the Pharmacy Act. This view was unanimously rejected.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

TANNING EXTRACT COMBINATION.—The *Compagnie Française des Extraits Tinctoires et Tannants* is the title of a new company which has just been formed at Havre by the absorption of the firms of Dubose Frères, Oesinger & Co., Jules Siegfried Fils & Co., and Coez, Langlois & Co., of Havre, and Alphonse Huillard & Co., of Luresnes and Leipsig, and Loutrel & Champy, of Rouen.

THE ANT IN MEDICINE.—Formic preparations are now regaining popularity, and Dr. Dorveaux reminds us, in a French pharmaceutical journal, that in the ancient *Pharmacopœias* the ant was very popular. It was one of the ingredients of "water of magnanimity" of Lemery and of Laurenbergius, and the base of Mynsicht's "acoustic oil" and Mindererus' "acoustic spirit." Deafness was, in fact, one of the maladies for which this remedy was largely recommended. The "water of magnanimity" was a sort of nerve-tonic, recommended for apoplexy, vertigo, paralysis, and senile decay; it was also supposed to act (like the "ant oil") as an aphrodisiac. Pounded ants' eggs were prescribed (for external application) for deafness, and even the nests were recommended for making a lotion in cases of gout, paralysis, cachexy, etc.

THE MAGISTRATE'S COUGH-LOZENGES.—A curious incident occurred at the Palais de Justice last week. An examining Magistrate, M. le Poittevin, was interrogating a burglar when his alpaca jacket suddenly caught fire. The criminal showed praiseworthy alacrity in aiding the *juge d'instruction* to extinguish the flames, and, with the assistance of the Municipal Guard and the Clerk, limited the damage to coat, waistcoat, and shirt-front. But the curious part of the tale was the cause of the accident. It would appear that M. le Poittevin had in his pocket, side by side, a box of vestas and another containing chlorate-of-potash lozenges. Some movement of the Magistrate had doubtless had the effect of pressing one of the lozenges against the match-box, with the results reported. The burglar observed that a life-saving medal would relieve the monotony of his convict costume, and suggested that the Magistrate should recommend him for a decoration of this kind.

THE WRONG BOTTLE.—On May 19 last a customer called at M. Bonnet's pharmacy in the Faubourg Saint Antoine quarter of Paris and asked for some *ipecacuanha*. The pharmacist's porter was in charge of the shop, and he supplied *nux vomica* instead. The later drug was given to a girl of eight, Lucie Marchand, who had developed whooping-cough, and she died. On Monday, July 24, the pharmacist and Pauziès, his porter, stood on their trial for poisoning by imprudence. The porter was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and the pharmacist to one month's imprisonment and 500f. (20l.) fine, the two being also jointly sentenced to pay a sum of 5,000f. (200l.) to the parents of the deceased child, but they escape the imprisonment under the First Offenders' Act. So far the case is unfortunate enough, but there is an element added to it which renders it particularly distressing. When the child developed convulsions after the *nux vomica* was administered the mother at once called in a doctor, and he ordered the little patient to be conveyed to the Trousseau Hospital in the neighbourhood, with a note reading, "This child should be admitted with all urgency and the stomach washed immediately." But at the hospital they refused to take her in, a nurse saying the child is an idiot and only wants smacking. The child was taken home again, but died about two hours afterwards. The pharmacist had been informed of the accident and did what he could in the way of supplying an emetic, etc., but without effect, and it was not until after the fatal issue that he discovered the error in supplying the drug. In the course of the evidence M. Bonnet stated that he had positively ordered his porter not to sell anything in the pharmacy, and that the *nux vomica* was in the poison cupboard. On his side the Judge spoke in very severe terms of the conduct of the hospital officials who refused to accept the patient. The unfortunate and distressing element is that had the doctor's instructions been followed the child's life would have been saved.

BRITISH PHARMACISTS IN PARIS.

(By Our Paris Correspondent.)

ACCORDING to the arrangements made by Mr. W. W. Savage, of Brighton, a party of British chemists travelled to Paris at the close of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Brighton, and reached La Ville Lumière, *via* Newhaven and Dieppe, in good time on Saturday morning, July 29, after a favourable Channel crossing. The party comprises: Mr. Robert Brodie, of Glasgow; Mr. and Mrs. William B. Cowie, of Edinburgh; Mr. James Ford and Miss Jessie Ford (a qualified pharmacist), of Kirriemuir; Mr. William J. Gibson and Miss Gibson, of Belfast; Mr. and Mrs. J. Hinton Lako and Miss Lake, of Exeter; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindsay, of Peebles; Mrs. John H. Smith, of London, and Miss Smith, of Nottingham; and Mr. Richard Posthumous Rees, of Downlais, South Wales. They have found excellent accommodation at the Hôtel du Palais, Cours-la-Reine, well situated on the banks of the river Seine, facing the site of the fine Street of Nations of the Paris 1900 International Exhibition.

I called at the hotel soon after the arrival of the party, and found the success of the Brighton functions had left them in excellent spirits. Some of them had been to Paris before, but all seem keenly appreciative of their visit to this most attractive city.

The visitors come under the auspices of the Polytechnic, and the arrangements comprise a driving-excursion through Paris on Monday, a visit to the Louvre Art Galleries and Museum on Tuesday, an excursion to the Palace and Forest of Fontainebleau on Wednesday, and a coaching excursion to Versailles on Thursday—all of which have been intelligently organised with an economy of time that comes of expert experience.

It was my privilege and good fortune to be able to make arrangements for the party to visit the leading places of pharmaceutical and scientific interest in Paris, in connection with which I at once received ready and courteous facilities from the French authorities. Typical of them I may mention Professor Guignard, the eminent botanist and Dean of the Paris College of Pharmacy; Professor Bourquelot, General Secretary of the Paris Society of Pharmacy and head pharmacist of the Laënnec Hospital; M. Albert Durand, Secretary of the Sorbonne, the great centre of French learning; and last, but not least, the Director of the Museum of Natural History. One and all gave a ready welcome to their British *confères*, and certainly the present moment is eminently propitious for an international exchange of courtesies between France and her island neighbour.

To British chemists resident in Paris this visit of their fellow-chemists with lady members of their families is of much interest. It is but a hop, step, and jump from Brighton to Paris, and, as a French pharmacist remarked, at this time of international amenities a visit to Paris by members of the Brighton Conference is merely "taking an intelligent advantage of one's opportunities."

The weather is delightfully fine, though perhaps a little warm, and the visitors devoted the afternoon of the day of their arrival to a steamboat trip through Paris as far as the Museum of National History and Zoological Gardens, which one and all agree were specially instructive and interesting. "We hardly thought they could do these things so well in France," said one appreciative northerner.

Sunday morning was occupied in the usual devotional practices, and in the afternoon I had the pleasure of entertaining the party to tea in the attractive grounds of the British Club on an island on the river Seine at Neuilly. Here an excellent photograph of the group was taken to commemorate the visit, and the party returned to their hotel for dinner.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday were spent in the excursions already mentioned, and Friday is to be devoted to a special visit to places of pharmaceutical and scientific interest, the following being the programme:

8.30 A.M.—Start from the Hôtel du Palais. Passing the Pasteur Statue, Avenue du Breteuil, the party arrives at

9 A.M. at the Pasteur Institute, rue Dutot. By the courtesy of Dr. Roux, Director (who is expected to receive the visitors personally) facilities have been accorded for a detailed visit to the world-famed bacteriological and scientific laboratories, as well as to view the tomb of Pasteur in the crypt below, which is only open to the public at intervals. From thence at

10 A.M. to the Laënnec Hospital. Like most of the Paris hospitals, the building is ancient, and was formerly a convent. (The adoption of an organised scheme for the destruction of these ancient buildings and their replacement by modern edifices renders their inspection the more interesting.) Professor Bourquelot, Chief Pharmacist of the Hospital, and General Secretary of the Paris Society of Pharmacy, has given permission for the inspection of the pharmacy (where some half-a-dozen *internes*, or house pharmacists, are employed) and a visit to the wards, and will,

it is hoped, personally conduct the party over the hospital. The route then taken leads into the students' quarter—the famous "Quartier Latin"—passing the Senate (several members of which began life as pharmacists) and the Luxembourg Gallery of Modern Paintings, both of which border on the Luxembourg Gardens and the Odéon, a subventioned theatre which ranks only next to the Théâtre Française for the perfection of high-class classical comedies.

11.30 to 2 P.M.—Arrangements will be made for luncheon in this neighbourhood. Should there be any spare time, the Faculties of Medicine, Law, Science, and Literature, the School of Mines, the Val-de-Grace Hospital (where military pharmacists and doctors are trained), the historic building which was once the home of the Paris School of Pharmacy, and the Pelletier-Caventou statue, are all within ten or fifteen minutes, and will be visited so far as time and inclination may suggest.

2 P.M.—The Paris School of Pharmacy, the largest establishment in the world entirely devoted to pharmaceutical education, which is looked upon as the headquarters by the French profession, will be visited in detail. The remarkable gallery of historic portraits in the great hall, the collection, the library, etc., will all be open to the party by special invitation of M. Guignard, the Dean.

3.15 P.M.—A stone's throw from the building is the clubhouse of the Paris pharmacy students, a prosperous and up-to-date association; and a little further up the famous "Boul Mich"—the students' boulevard—at

3.30 P.M. the Sorbonne will be visited by special permit from the Dean. This, the headquarters of French learning, houses the Faculties of Sciences and Literature, and many of France's greatest chemists have been numbered among its professors. All the great public functions of the University of Paris are held in the grand amphitheatre, and the paintings of scientific and other subjects render the Sorbonne as handsome as it is complete and up-to-date in scientific equipment of laboratories, etc. If time allows, a slight *détour* will be made to pass the Central Pharmacy of the Paris Hospitals and the Municipal Laboratory, both of which are close by Notre-Dame Cathedral; this will enable a glance at the Hôtel-Dieu (largest of Paris Hospitals) and the Morgue, of which all tourists have heard. Crossing the bridge, we finally leave the "Surrey side" or "rive Gauche," the quarter of learning and literature, to enter the busy quarter of the Hôtel-de-Ville and Marais. The handsome mansions of the old nobility and wealthy bourgeois, now turned into chemical and other warehouses, are curious features of this part of Paris.

4 P.M.—One of the most remarkable of these will be visited, the Pharmacie Centrale, a fine old town residence, with memories of Lavoisier, now the site of an important wholesale business.

4.30 P.M.—Return to the hotel for tea.

The statue of Lavoisier, "the initiator of modern chemistry," situated near the Madeleine, will be visited, time permitting, also several of the French pharmacies, as well as some of the best British pharmacies in Paris.

Mr. W. B. Cowie, of Edinburgh, sends us the following impressions of the visit up to a point:

After a quick passage from Newhaven the party arrived at Dieppe at 3 A.M. The railway journey from Dieppe to Paris was interesting to those who were not slumbering, as the country was clothed in its best robes of green. The tired but happy party arrived at the Hôtel du Palais, and after breakfast received a call from your Paris correspondent, who kindly presented a number of tickets for admission to places of interest, among which were the Botanical and Zoological Gardens and the Museum of Natural History. The party took boat from le Pont Invalides to le Pont Austerlitz, and during the interesting passage many amusing incidents occurred which showed the good feeling existing between the French and British. The heat being excessive, much relief was experienced on entering the beautiful avenue of trees in the Botanical Gardens, where the plants and trees were in excellent condition. The botanical members of the party were anxious to see that part specially set aside for the use of students, but time did not permit. The zoological section was next visited, and great interest was manifested in the birds and animals. The seals, bears, and elephants gave a special performance for the benefit of the party. The Museum of Natural History was then entered, and the members of the party were greatly impressed with the vastness of the place, and also with the immense collection and completeness of detail. After luncheon, which was enlivened by a member of the party from the "Emerald Isle," a visit was paid to the Pantheon—the Westminster Abbey of Paris.

CHILE's exports of saltpetre in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1905, aggregated 1,710,000 tons. Germany was the largest customer, followed by Great Britain, the United States, and France in the order given.

Colonial and Foreign News.

GERMAN SACCHARIN LAW.—The Prussian Minister of Finance has empowered the Saccharin Factory at Westerbussen, which is the sole company now concerned with the business in saccharin, to purchase stocks of artificial sweeteners held by other companies or persons.

SWEDISH MEDICINAL-PLANT CULTURE.—The "Pharmatzevtischeski Journal" reports that a Swedish Commission has been appointed to proceed to England, Germany, Holland, and Austria, to study the cultivation and preparation of medicinal plants with the object of introducing them into Sweden.

METHYLATED PREPARATIONS IN GERMANY.—Druggists in Germany are in future to have their shops inspected by official authorities, and any pharmacopœia preparations, such as tinctures of iodine and myrrh, made with methylated spirit will not be sold. Apothekers may not make Pharmacopœia preparations with methylated spirit.

PHARMACEUTICAL-SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT IN RUSSIA.—The Medical Council of the Russian Ministry of the Interior has elaborated a scheme for pharmaceutical schools, having for its object alterations in the present condition of pharmaceutical students. According to the new project pharmaceutical schools may be established by administrative and local government bodies, and by private people and societies in all university and government towns with the consent of the local authorities.

AUSTRALIA'S NEW CUSTOMS.—A Reuter's telegram from Melbourne, dated July 29, states that "by the new customs regulation, which comes into force on August 1, the valuation of imported goods will be taken at the cost, free on board, at the port of shipment, such cost including the cost of labour and material in connection with packing, except outside packages, and all costs of conveyance from the place of sale and of placing on board the exporting ship. Stamp duties on bills of lading, buying commissions, and brokerage will not be allowed to be included."

THE SALE OF POPPY-HEADS.—Referring to the agitation induced in certain medical quarters in Germany concerning the sale of poppy-heads, Dr. Bedall and Mr. Clessler, the reporter for pharmaceutical affairs in the Wurtemberg Medical Council, report that they consider the ripe poppy-heads entirely harmless. The free sale of unripe poppy-heads, as well as of syrup of poppies prepared from them, is forbidden. The cases of poisoning of children by poppies—made so much of in medical circles—are attributed to using unripe poppy-heads which have been gathered in the country, where the peasants themselves cultivate poppies.

A NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION.—The Government of New Zealand has decided to hold, during the summer of 1906-7, an International Exhibition at Christchurch, Canterbury, in which all the nations of the world have been invited to participate. The object of the exhibition, it is officially announced, is educational, and it is intended to demonstrate the resources and possibilities of the Colony as one of the world's food-producing factors. Judging from the circular we have received, it is to be a big affair, the site comprising some 400 acres in extent. Full particulars may be obtained in regard to space and so forth from the Agent-General for New Zealand in London.

RUSSIAN ITEMS.—One of the objects of the proposed Moscow Pharmaceutical League is to secure the introduction of a double seven-hours' shift in the shops, and the conclusion of the "constitution" states that the operations of the league must be political as well as social.—On July 5 two casks arrived at Baku passenger station marked "Chemical soda," which, when opened by the police under suspicion, were found to contain 880 cartridges and a quantity of rifle-fittings.—The pharmacists on the Siberian railway have been refused permission to hold a general meeting, so they will have sectional meetings at Krasnoyarsk, Tomsk, and Omsk, says the "Siberian Medical Gazette."—The Pharmaceutical Society has petitioned the Minister of the Interior to allow Jewish pharmacists to live in the capital that they may attend lectures at the University. The Minister refused to comply with the request, and the Pharmaceutical Society has decided to appeal to the Senate.

The Devereux Trial.

THE trial of Arthur Devereux, chemist and druggist, for the murder of his wife and twin children was, on Saturday, July 29, concluded at the Old Bailey, when the jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to death.

In our Supplement last week the report of his trial up to Thursday was included. On Friday, July 28, Mr. George Elliott, leading barrister for the defence, addressed the jury. Devereux maintained his self-possessed demeanour, but seemed slightly paler and a little restless. Mr. Elliott spoke for three hours, and amid the buzz which arose at the conclusion of the speech the cry "Devereux" rang through the Court, and the accused stepped briskly from the dock to the witness-box, and in a calm, dispassionate tone proceeded without a trace of emotion to describe how he arrived home from a walk with his elder son on the night of January 31 and found the room in darkness. He sent his boy out, then, getting a light, found the dead bodies. There was a smell of chloroform in the room, he said. Then the prisoner described how he packed the bodies in the trunk, accounting for this disposal by his fear that the police would think he had murdered them. Mr. Hutton (one of prisoner's counsel) asked him: "Is it true that you on that day or any other day administered any noxious drug—morphia or chloroform?" To this Devereux quickly replied, "No; certainly not." The cross-examination by Mr. Mathews was then commenced. It dealt largely with the packing of the bodies in the trunk, which, according to Devereux, took only fifteen to twenty minutes; but he was engaged from Wednesday to Saturday in putting in the preservative glue and covering the box. He commenced to dispose of his wife's clothes during the week, and before he had finished the wooden covering of the trunk. In regard to the morphia and chloroform prisoner stated that he took home from Mr. Turner's some of these, as he used them himself at home, and always had them in the house, and the fact that he brought them home then was only to replenish his stock. He had about 30 grains of morphia hydrochloride, and 4 oz. of chloroform. In answer to Mr. Justice Ridley, Devereux said that he did not know that his wife had taken morphia, although the bottle was on the floor nearly empty. He only attached importance to the chloroform, which bottle was empty. After the luncheon interval the cross-examination was resumed by Mr. Mathews, who asked prisoner whether in the month of January he advertised for a situation in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Devereux: Yes, and possibly other journals.

Mr. Mathews (holding up the Coloured Supplement): Is that one of the journals in which you advertised?—It is.

Mr. Mathews: Do you take it in?—No.

Mr. Mathews: Did you see it from time to time?—I usually get it when I require it from the office.

Mr. Mathews: In THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in January did you notice an advertisement which came from Hull?—Yes.

Mr. Mathews: Did you answer it?—I did.

At this point the Supplement was handed up to Justice Ridley, who read aloud the advertisement inserted by Mr. W. H. Hammond, of Hull.

"Is that your reply," asked Mr. Mathews, passing a telegram up to the accused. Devereux read the telegram very carefully, following the text with his finger. He handed it back with the simple answer "Yes."

Mr. Mathews read the telegram to the Court as follows:

"Would widower suit? Aged 34; qualified, extractor. One child aged six, boy, at boarding-school."

"Why," cried the Judge, "you had a wife and three children living then!"

Devereux nodded.

"And," added Mr. Mathews, "by February 22 you were a widower with one surviving child, who had been placed at a boarding school!"

"What were you going to do with your wife," asked the Judge. "I was going to leave her behind," replied the prisoner. "I've done the same trick before, as it is difficult for a married man to get an indoor situation."

Prisoner further stated that he had several times answered advertisements describing himself as widower. All the advertisements he answered were out of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and the last he could remember was about a year

ago last March. If he had a copy of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in front of him he could say which were the ones he answered.

The Vicar of the parish of Beaconsfield said he knew the prisoner from a boy, and the last time he saw him was in 1891. He was always considered to be "a little bit off the top," and acted very funny. On one occasion he posed as an American millionaire at Maldon.

Mr. L. S. Forbes Winslow, M.B. (Cantab.) M.R.C.S., Lecturer on Lunacy at Charing Cross Hospital, stated that he had examined the accused on July 17 and 21. He found him to be mentally deficient and inclined to insanity, although knowing the difference between right and wrong.

At this point a discussion arose as to how a statement emanating from the witness appeared in the papers; and Mr. Justice Ridley told him to be careful how he tried to get a free advertisement in future, and asked him to step down from the box.

On Saturday Mr. Elliott addressed the jury for the defence, and Mr. Charles Mathews replied for the Crown.

Mr. Justice Ridley, in summing up, said a great deal of medical evidence had been called which was quite extraneous to the point at issue. He instanced Dr. Forbes Winslow, who was asked what was the condition of Devereux on the day in question. That was a highly improper question, the same as many others that had been put. There was no question of the sanity of the prisoner; it was admitted that he was not insane. Facts were what the jury had to decide upon, not suggestions. Was there a shadow of doubt that this was a preconceived murder? This man was a chemist's assistant, and he seemed to have—recently anyway—obtained situations in a way open to much suspicion. The evidence of Sir Thomas Stevenson was most important, as it seemed to prove conclusively that a person who had taken morphia would not have been able to have taken the chloroform owing to paralysis of the senses. Again, he answered an advertisement in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST on January 13, 1905, applying for a berth as a widower with one child—six years old—Stanley. Was that a coincidence? Was it coincidence that he knew that Mrs. Gregory would be away? Was it to be supposed that Mrs. Devereux knew the properties of salts of morphia—as there were few lay persons who knew it—but the prisoner did? The fact of the man pawning the clothes of his wife before her body had been properly hidden in the tin trunk was hardly the action of a man who was trying to smother a tragedy. It was the mind that wanted the money, not the mind that wanted to hide anything. The man who had the nerve to go through a trial such as the present one in the manner that the prisoner had, and with such composure, was surely the one that could have faced the trouble when he found it.

The jury retired at five minutes to three and returned into Court at thirteen minutes past, the quickest verdict to be returned in a criminal trial for twenty years. They found him guilty of murder. Asked by Mr. Justice Ridley if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, Devereux said: "I have nothing to add to what I have already said." The Judge then assumed the black cap and sentenced him to death, telling him in doing so that he could hold out no hope of reprieve. Devereux quickly left the dock with a firm tread to the cells below. Shortly before seven o'clock he was removed to Pentonville Prison. August 15 has been fixed for the execution.

Arthur Devereux's name occurs in the register of chemists and druggists as of Penn. Amersham, Bucks. He studied at the Westminster College of Pharmacy (Mr. G. S. V. Wills') and passed the Minor examination on January 3, 1895. His father was a chemist in business at Beaconsfield, Bucks. This specimen of Devereux's handwriting is from

*etc. and delight
your etc.
advertiser.*
No. 24 (8252)

a letter received by the publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST thanking him for copies of the C. & D. containing reports of the inquest on Mrs. Devereux and the children, sent at his request and with the sanction of the Governor of Brixton Prison.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THERE was a good attendance at Wednesday's meeting of Council, Mr. Park, of Plymouth, being the only absent member. A vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the late Mr. J. B. Stephenson, of Edinburgh, Mr. Storrar and Mr. Carteighe supporting the President's motion. The President reported on behalf of the delegates from the Society to the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Brighton. Mr. Atkins also testified to the success of the Conference, and Mr. Gibson acknowledged the compliments paid to the local Executive. The Benevolent Fund has benefited by a donation of 100*l.* from an unknown source, and three persons received grants amounting to 36*l.* from the same fund. Miss Renouf has been recommended for the appointment of Salters' Fellow, and if the Salters' Company confirm, Miss Renouf will be the first lady who has held the appointment. Sir Boverton Redwood is to deliver the sessional address to the School of Pharmacy in October, and in connection with the school it was mentioned that Professor Greenish has been appointed an examiner to the Birmingham University, and that Mr. Wallis has obtained an appointment as science teacher to the Tunbridge Wells Technical Institute. In regard to the Privy Council's approval of the additions to the Poisons Schedule, the President is going informally to the Privy Council Office to get an explanation as to why three items mentioned in the resolution have been omitted. Discussion on the matter is therefore deferred, as it is in regard to the methods to be adopted in the sale of poisons. The Council will await the result of the appeal case before proceeding further with the consideration of the last-named subject. A conference between the Society of Public Analysts and the Pharmaceutical Society is to take place early in October, when the position of chemists in prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is to be considered.

THERE were present at the meeting on August 2 the President (Mr. R. A. Robinson), Vice-President (Mr. J. R. Young), Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. S. R. Atkins, S. Campkin, M. Carteighe, A. Cooper, W. G. Cross, W. L. Currie, W. H. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, J. Harrison, A. E. Hobbs, G. T. W. Newsholme, A. Southall, D. Storrar, C. Symes, and A. C. Wootton.

THE LATE MR. STEPHENSON.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been disposed of,

THE PRESIDENT made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. J. B. Stephenson, of Edinburgh. Mr. Stephenson was an examiner in Scotland of the Society from 1876 to 1893, Chairman of the North British Branch 1876 to 1881, President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference 1885-6, and a contributor to pharmaceutical literature. "We all regret his loss," said the President, "and I am sure it is your wish that a vote of condolence should be sent to his relatives from this Council."

MR. CARTEIGHE seconded, and

MR. STORRAR referred to Mr. Stephenson as having been one of the vitalising features of pharmacy in Scotland from as long as he (the speaker) could remember. Mr. Stephenson devoted himself very largely to the Society's work in Scotland, and at times, in the rôle of a candid friend, he criticised the Council and the Society very freely. Nobody, however, would have been more surprised than Mr. Stephenson to be told that the criticisms were hurtful to the Society. He was an exceedingly kindly and good man, and devoted his life to good work in Edinburgh.

MR. CARTEIGHE said he knew Mr. Stephenson as a friend and official, and had more discussion with him

about education and the politics of pharmacy than usually falls to the lot of two friends. If Mr. Stephenson had a fault it was that he was a little too zealous, and his standard of requirements from those around him was higher than is normal in this world. He (the speaker) had known him for some thirty-five years, and regarded him as one who kept up the relationship between the younger and senior members of the Society in Scotland. Mr. Stephenson's attainments were very considerable, and he (Mr. Carteighe) was much impressed by his extraordinary powers and knowledge of both the sciences upon which the art of pharmacy is based.

The resolution was carried, all standing.

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

THE PRESIDENT reported that most of the delegates from the Society attended the Conference at Brighton last week. The President took for his address the standardisation of drugs, and he (the speaker) noticed with pleasure the pharmaceutical nature of the papers. The Conference was exceedingly successful, socially and pharmaceutically.

MR. ATKINS said all the delegates considered the meeting a record one, and although each Conference establishes a record in some direction, he thought Brighton was one in point of attendance. There are one or two things that are required to make a meeting a success. First, all possible requirements must be thought out, and then provision made for them. Everything seemed to have been anticipated and provided for. He was much struck with the unity that distinguishes the local chemists. It was an interesting feature to see the number of local men who took an active part in the Conference. There were many prominent men, but he ought specially to mention Mr. Gibson, Mr. Savage, Mr. Yates, and Mr. Gwatkin. He could not allow the opportunity to pass without declaring his appreciation of the princely generosity of Mr. Gibson. It is not enough to have a purse deep and well filled, but to have as well tact and the faculty of carrying out the minutest detail is a combination not often found in this world. "I received an amount of kindness, attention, and generous hospitality from Mr. Gibson which will make him a life-long friend," were Mr. Atkins' concluding words.

MR. GIBSON said he was most gratified to hear the previous speakers, and delighted that the local chemists had given satisfaction to the visitors. As to his generosity, although he was sorry it had been mentioned, it afforded him much pleasure to entertain men so prominent in pharmacy. The regret has been expressed that the Conference does not meet every year at Brighton, but although that may not be feasible, he hoped that the Conference would meet there every seven or ten years. His colleagues had worked in harmony, and with their whole hearts; indeed, the Executive gave up their whole time to the Conference for the last week.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

A number (not stated) of members were elected to the Society, and nine student-associates. Four persons were restored to the register and eleven to their former place in the Society.

Diplomas were granted to the fourteen pharmaceutical chemists who passed the July examination.

MAMMON.

MR. HARRINGTON next moved the adoption of the Finance Report, which showed the following balances:

| | £ | s. | d. |
|----------------------|-----|-----|------------|
| General Fund Account | ... | ... | 1,841 19 8 |
| Benevolent Fund— | | | |
| Current Account | ... | ... | 653 18 5 |
| Donation Account | ... | ... | 11 13 6 |
| Orphan Fund | ... | ... | 19 17 5 |

The report submitted for payment the following items:

| | £ | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| On behalf of the "Journal" | ... | ... | 685 4 9 |
| Sundries | ... | ... | 27 0 8 |
| House | ... | ... | 110 8 11 |
| Stationery, etc. | ... | ... | 117 13 11 |
| Current expenses | ... | ... | 800 0 0 |
| Salaries, etc. (two months) | ... | ... | 829 3 4 |
| School and examinations | ... | ... | 875 11 4 |
| Law charges | ... | ... | 128 12 5 |
| Library | ... | ... | 25 18 3 |

£3,599 13 7

Mr. Harrington mentioned that the Benevolent Fund Donation Account had benefited by the amount of 100*l.*, which came from an unknown source through the influence of Mr. Hugill. There were also some additional items to the payments amounting to about 10*l.* The large amounts voted at the meeting are due to the fact that the Council does not meet in September.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was considered *in camera*, after which

Mr. ATKINS moved the adoption of the report, mentioning that the grants were two of 13*l.* and one of 10*l.*

The report was adopted.

L., M., S., AND H. COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School and House Committee was next presented by the Treasurer, the following being some of the items: Parkinson's account for 29*l.* 10*s.* was approved, and further painting and cleaning left to the discretion of Mr. Hills. The question of having telephonic communication between various parts of the Society's premises was deferred. Mr. Knapman is to attend the meeting of the Library Association at Cambridge and receives a grant of 5*l.* towards his expenses. The Dean of the school is to have a "Blick" typewriter. The resignations of Mr. Walker and Mr. Cart from their positions as demonstrators were received and Mr. Warner appointed in Mr. Walker's place. The issue of the school prospectus cost 62*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* Miss Renouf was nominated as Salters' Fellow. The application of the Chemists' Assistants' Association for permission to meet in the Society's premises was not acceded to, in so far as weekly meetings were concerned, but permission would probably be given on special application for one or two lectures in the course of the session. Sir Boverton Redwood is to address the School of Pharmacy at the opening of the session on October 2.

The TREASURER, commenting on the report, said the chemical laboratory is to be cleaned and the outside iron-work painted, at a cost of between 80*l.* and 90*l.* The question of telephonic communication between different departments of the Society's premises was deferred. Professor Greenish was given permission to hold an examiner-ship of the Birmingham University, which had been offered him. If the Salters' Company agree to the appointment of Miss Renouf she will be the first lady who has held the Salters' Fellowship. The Treasurer paid a tribute to the great interest which the Salters' Company take in educational work.

The PRESIDENT, referring to Sir Boverton Redwood's coming address to the students, said Sir Boverton regards it as a compliment and an honour that he should be asked to address the students.

Mr. CARTEIGHE spoke of the liberality of the Salters' Company in founding the Research Fellowship in connection with the Society, and mentioned that the family of Hills, connected with the firm of Davy Hill & Co., took great interest in the Salters' Company, which is the nearest approach to a druggists' company.

Dr. SYMES suggested if there were easier means of getting from the Society's house to Galen Place the members of Council might more frequently visit the different parts of the premises.

Several suggestions were made for facilitating inter-communication, one councillor suggesting that a flying-machine might be anchored over the roof for the use of the councillors.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Wallis, assistant lecturer in chemistry in the Society's school, resigning his position, as he had obtained the post of Science Teacher at the Technical Institute, Tunbridge Wells.

The PRESIDENT said it was a matter of congratulation that Mr. Wallis had obtained advancement. "There seems," he added, "quite a close relationship between this Society and Tunbridge Wells."

Mr. CARTEIGHE, Mr. HOBBS, and the TREASURER spoke of Mr. Wallis's good qualities, the last-named speaker referring to him as "a perfect encyclopædia of knowledge."

The report was adopted, and it was left to a small committee to appoint a successor to Mr. Wallis.

ORGANISATION.

The PRESIDENT moved the adoption of the report of the Organisation Committee, mentioning that the country had been laid out into eleven districts. Meetings had been held in four, two were in contemplation, and the remainder would be held as soon as arrangements could be made.

Mr. GIFFORD referred to the suggestion that had been made to publish the names of offenders under the Pharmacy Acts in the calendar as being unnecessary.

Mr. HOBBS asked what the practice was as regards the private conference after the public meeting. Some chemists had expressed disappointment at not having had the opportunity of speaking to the President and councillors.

The PRESIDENT explained that there seemed to be a strong desire on the part of members to leave, but several stopped and conferred with the Secretary and himself.

Mr. HOBBS said the explanation had cleared the air.

Mr. ATKINS spoke of his reception at Bristol and approved of this method of directly appealing to the nation through the Press. At the Bristol meeting he was prepared for some heckling, but did not get it.

Mr. NEWSHOLME said he attached the greatest importance to these public meetings, but he would like to see them presided over by the Mayor of the town. This would bring them more before the public.

The VICE-PRESIDENT referred to the meetings at Leeds as successful, and the discussion as free and candid, whilst intelligent and good-natured.

The report was adopted.

THE JULY EXAMINATIONS.

The Board of Examiners reported that at the examinations in London there were seventeen candidates for the Major and twelve passed. For the Minor out of 263 candidates 129 passed. In Scotland two Major candidates were examined and both passed, whilst for the Minor forty-six candidates passed out of 113. Certificates by approved examining bodies were received from thirty-seven persons desirous of registration as apprentices or students.

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the great improvement in the pass-lists, which is not due to laxity on the part of the examiners, but because the men were better prepared.

THE POISON SCHEDULE.

The report of the General Purposes Committee stated that the suggestions as to the procedure to be adopted in the sale of poisons had been considered and deferred, pending the result of the appeal case. The correspondence as to the resolution adding certain poisons to the Poison Schedule, and which has been partly approved by the Privy Council, was also deferred, pending a visit of the President of the Society to Whitehall.

The PRESIDENT reiterated the items and said the General Purposes Committee had asked him to see the officers of the Privy Council in an informal way.

Dr. SYMES said he hoped the matter of selling poisons would receive some consideration from councillors in the interim, and

Mr. GIFFORD thought some information should be given as to the reason why acetanilide, sulphonal, and the soluble oxalates were deleted from the resolution passed by the Society.

Mr. HOBBS considered that the methods to be adopted in selling poisons needed revision so as to secure uniformity, and the matter should not be shelved even for a very short period.

The report was adopted.

The letter from the Privy Council, approving of the additions to the Poisons Schedule came up again, and having been read by the SECRETARY,

The PRESIDENT said no doubt the Privy Council are acting under expert advice, and after the interview which he proposed to have with the officers of the Privy Council the Council would probably understand the reasons for deleting certain poisons from the resolution.

The Bell scholars were given permission to take the advanced course in the Society's school in the session beginning in October.

The TREASURER asked whether anything had come of the suggested conference between the Society of Public Analysts and the Pharmaceutical Society in reference to the prosecution of chemists under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Mr. CARTEIGHE replied that he had received a communication from the Society of Public Analysts appointing three of their number to confer with the Society at the end of September or beginning of October.

This was the end of the public business.

MEETING AT BRIGHTON.

A MEETING of the members residing in the home counties was held at the Hôtel Métropole, Brighton, on Friday, July 28, Mr. R. A. Robinson presiding. He was supported by Mr. Walter Hills, Mr. S. R. Atkins, and Mr. W. H. Gibson, while the Secretary, Mr. Richard Bremridge, and the Assistant-Secretary in Scotland, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, sat on his left. About seventy members of the Society were present, half of them being from the home counties, in which there are over 4,500 registered persons. Miss Flora Mitton, pharmaceutical chemist, Hurstpierpoint, and Miss Jessie Ford, Kirriemuir, were the only ladies present. The PRESIDENT opened the proceedings by delivering a lengthy speech, intended for the man in the street, in which the objects of the Pharmaceutical Society and the Acts which it is entrusted to administer were described. He was followed by Mr. W. L. CURRIE, Glasgow, who raised a hearty cheer by stating that chemists would not take lying down the rebuke of the Privy Council in regard to the non-scheduling of three poisons without reference to the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. S. R. ATKINS, Mr. JOHN SMITH (St. Leonards), Mr. FRANK HARVEY (President of the Thames Valley Chemists' Association), Mr. T. H. W. IDRIS, and Mr. WALTER HILLS also spoke. It was expected that there would be an opportunity for airing grievances. We heard of a few who had come for that purpose, but they went away disappointed. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. GWATKIN, was seconded by Mr. FEAVER CLARKE and supported by Mr. COSTERTON, who suggested that the Pharmaceutical Council should give a prize for the best article upon chemists' grievances with a view to distributing it to the public and candidates for Parliament.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

THE REVENUE BILL.

In indicating on Monday the measures the passing of which before the end of the Session the Government regarded as essential, Mr. Balfour, it was noticed, made no mention of the Revenue Bill, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer embodies the recommendation of the Committee appointed to inquire into the use of alcohol for industrial purposes. It is feared that, in the circumstances, the Bill has very little chance of passing into law this Session. Up to the present it has not even obtained a second reading, and as there are four motions for its rejection, there is no prospect of the measure being allowed to go through as an unopposed Bill.

REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The report from the Select Committee appointed to consider the expediency of providing for the registration of nurses has been issued as a Parliamentary paper. The Committee are agreed that it is desirable that a register of nurses should be kept by a central body appointed by the State, and that, while it is not desirable to prohibit unregistered persons from nursing for gain, no person should be entitled to assume the designation of "registered nurse" whose name is not upon the register. The central body should consist of matrons, nurses, and representatives of the medical profession, of training schools for nurses, and of the public, and the Committee consider it desirable that the number of representatives should be kept within reasonable limits, not exceeding fifteen.

TRADE-MARKS BILL.

In moving the second reading of this Bill in the House of Lords on August 2, Earl Spencer said that it is principally a consolidation Bill, and he understood that it would not be opposed by the Government. The Duke of Marlborough observed that the Government would have some amendments to move in Committee. If they were accepted there was no doubt that this Bill would consolidate an important branch of the law and would be of considerable value. The Bill was then read a second time.

The Liège Congress.

IT will come to British pharmacists generally as a surprise that there was an international Congress of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Liège last week. It opened just when the British Pharmaceutical Conference was closing, a reception being given by the Société Chimique de Belgique to the Congressists and their ladies at eight o'clock on Wednesday evening, July 26. Then it was found that Belgian chemists and pharmacists formed the bulk of the Congress. Professor W. Fresenius, of Wiesbaden, was the representative of Germany, and Dr. F. B. Power, of London, the solitary Congressist whose native tongue is English, of which no speech was heard during the meeting. The University of Liège was the meeting-place, and the regular sessions commenced on Thursday in the Salle Académique, when the President, Professor A. Gilkinet, gave an address of welcome at 11 A.M., and some formal business was transacted, after which the Congressists separated to participate in the work of the sections interesting them. Of these there were nine, Section 4 being devoted to pharmaceutical chemistry, practical pharmacy, and toxicology. M. W. Dulière was President of this section, and in the course of the meeting Dr. F. B. Power was appointed an Honorary President. Professor Paterno, of Rome (President-elect of the International Congress of Applied Chemistry), and Professor H. Fresenius were also elected Vice-Presidents of the Congress. The following is the programme of Section 4:

Dr. F. B. Power et F. Tutin, London, "Examen chimique de l'Aethusa Cynapium."

M. A. Altan, Bucarest, "Cause des erreurs du procédé Kerner-Weller dans le sulfate de quinine officinal."

M. Byla, Gentilly (près Paris), "Les Energétènes végétaux, sucres inaltérables de plantes fraîches, obtenus par un procédé nouveau."

M. Denigès, Bordeaux, "La recherche toxicologique de l'arsenic dans l'état actuel de nos connaissances."

M. W. Dulière, Namur, "Sur le dosage des alcaloïdes des Solanées et leurs préparations."

M. Duyck, Bruxelles, "Sur l'essai méthodique des vins usités en pharmacie."

Dr. Er. Gérard, Lille, "Sur la recherche toxicologique de la morphine."

Prof. Grimbart, Paris, "La teneur en alcaloïdes des extraits de solanées."

M. J. Haenen, Liège, "Préparation rationnelle et secundum artem des onguents, leur importance en dermatologie."

M. E. Hairs, Liège, "De l'essai du sulfate de quinine."

Prof. A. Jorissen, Liège, "Le dosage des alcaloïdes."

M. A. Vournasos, Athènes, "Nouveaux procédés de préparation du salol.—Nouveaux éthers dérivés du salol."

M. A. J. Hendrics, pharmacien à Anvers, "La stérilisation des pansements."

MM. Fr. Schoofs, Liège, et J. D. Morales, Mexico, "De la stérilisation des médicaments."

In Section 8 (professional interests) papers were read on apprenticeship, limitation of pharmacies, mutualistic pharmacies, and co-operative pharmacy. The pharmacist's responsibilities were also discussed in the historical and legal section.

The social side of the Congress was delightful. On Thursday evening there was a reception in the Hôtel Continental by the Pharmaceutical Associations of Liège, and on the following evening the local authorities gave a reception in the same place. A dinner was also held there on Saturday evening. The Congress was formally closed on Sunday, when Dr. F. B. Power, on behalf of the foreign members, thanked Belgian chemists for their splendid hospitality. On Monday of this week the members and their ladies joined in an excursion to Spa, which was favoured with splendid weather, and a most enjoyable day was spent.

SANDALWOOD PARASITES.—Mr. C. A. Barber, the Government botanist of Madras, contributes an exhaustive paper to the May number of the "Indian Forester" on "The Haustoria of Sandal Roots," in the course of which he remarks that "we are well accustomed to the presence of animals permanently fixed to others, but that plants should obtain their nutriment by sucking the juice of other plants comes as a matter of surprise to students of the vegetable kingdom. It is to this study that I wish to direct attention, especially as all the facts have by no means been elucidated."

Breezes from Brighton.

The Conference doings up till Thursday midday were chronicled in last week's issue of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, when we left the happy party in full enjoyment of the delights



OVER THE BRIDGE AT ARUNDEL.

of Arundel. The luncheon at the Norfolk Arms was a successful function. A larger party turned up than was expected, but the landlord, having provided plenty of food, was well able to cope with the unexpected rush. The luncheon was held in two rooms. In the upper room Mr. W. H. Gibson was in the chair and was supported by the President of the



IN THE QUADANGLE OF ARUNDEL CASTLE.

Conference (Mr. Naylor) and Major Mostyn (the Duke of Norfolk's agent). As previously mentioned, Major Mostyn replied to the toast of "The Duke of Norfolk," and said his lordship was very pleased to give permission to visit the castle to such a distinguished body of men, whose services are not always adequately appreciated. Mr. H. M. Black, in a



ENTERING THE PRIVATE CHAPEL AT ARUNDEL.

capital speech, proposed the toast of "The President of the Pharmaceutical Conference," to which Mr. Naylor replied. Mr. S. R. Atkins gave the toast of "The Ladies," and Mr. G. C. Druce replied in a witty speech, more brilliant, if possible, than usual. An extra toast was that of "The Chairman and Members of the Local Committee," Mr. Gibson replying.

The afternoon's amusements were a trip up the Arun, a drive, and a cricket match, an unofficial mode of spending the afternoon being a game of bowls at the Norfolk Arms. As to the river trip. A large motor-boat was quickly filled and took



RETURNING FROM THE DRIVE ROUND ARUNDEL.

a smaller boat, also full, in tow. A steam tug in front assisted and piloted both, and a pleasant sail of about an hour brought the adventurous navigators by ever-narrowing rush-



FOUR PRESIDENTS.

The names from left to right are Mr. W. F. Wells (President Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland), Mr. W. A. H. Naylor (President B.P.C.), Mr. R. A. Robinson (President Pharmaceutical Society G.B.), and Mr. W. H. Gibson (President Brighton Chemists' Association). Photo by Mr. A. J. Franklin.

grown banks to Amberley. The journey was a merry one, enlivened by choruses led by budding Conference Presidents and their charming lady friends. At Black Rabbit a party



A SMILING GROUP.

The names from left to right are Mr. R. A. Robinson, Mr. J. C. Umney, Mr. C. N. Layman, Mr. F. N. Layman, and Mr. Frank R. Squire (San Remo). Photo by Mr. A. J. Franklin.

of younger members of the Conference, regaling themselves with tea after rowing so far up the river, exchanged greetings with their friends on board on the return journey.

We are indebted to Mr. Alan Francis for the photos. of Arundel scattered through these notes. Mrs. J. C. Umney also sends us a few (too late for this week). At least three cameras snapped the five smilers, but Mr. A. J. Franklin's print came to us first.

The cricket match afforded amusement for another section. The following was the score:

All England.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| F. N. Layman, c Blamey, b Williamson | ... 8 |
| T. S. Widdowson, b Gibson | ... 0 |
| J. C. Umney (Capt.), b Andrews | ... 43 |
| E. W. Lucas, not out | ... 6 |
| C. E. Umney, c sub, b Andrews | ... 5 |
| H. J. Williams, not out | ... 8 |
| Byes 2, no-ball 1, wide 1 | ... 4 |

* Total (4 wickets) ... 74

* Innings declared closed.

E. Kirby, A. E. Hobbs, W. Garsed, F. W. Ashton, and W. G. Cross did not bat.

Chemists of Sussex.

| | |
|---|-------|
| C. E. Robinson, b Kirby | ... 1 |
| Gibson, jun., b Kirby | ... 0 |
| W. H. Andrews, c & b Williams | ... 4 |
| A. J. Franklin, run out | ... 3 |
| C. A. Blamey (Capt.), c J. Umney, b Kirby | ... 1 |
| — Williamson, b Williams | ... 0 |
| C. G. Yates, not out | ... 0 |
| — Williamson, not out | ... 2 |
| Leg-bye 1, wide 1, no-ball 1 | ... 3 |

Total (6 wickets) ... 14

J. Padwick, J. Plowright, and R. A. Cripps did not bat. Scorer, F. R. Squire, San Remo.

At five o'clock all met again for tea in the Norfolk Arms, and this being over, the hill to the castle was again climbed for the purpose of posing before the camera. A grassy mound just inside the castle gates formed an ideal spot for the photographic operation. It was a long business getting everyone in position, but with the help of Mr. James Russell (Dundee) this was finally accomplished and the successful photograph taken, a reproduction of which is given on this page. After this the party walked or rode to the station and were back in Brighton by 7.30 p.m.

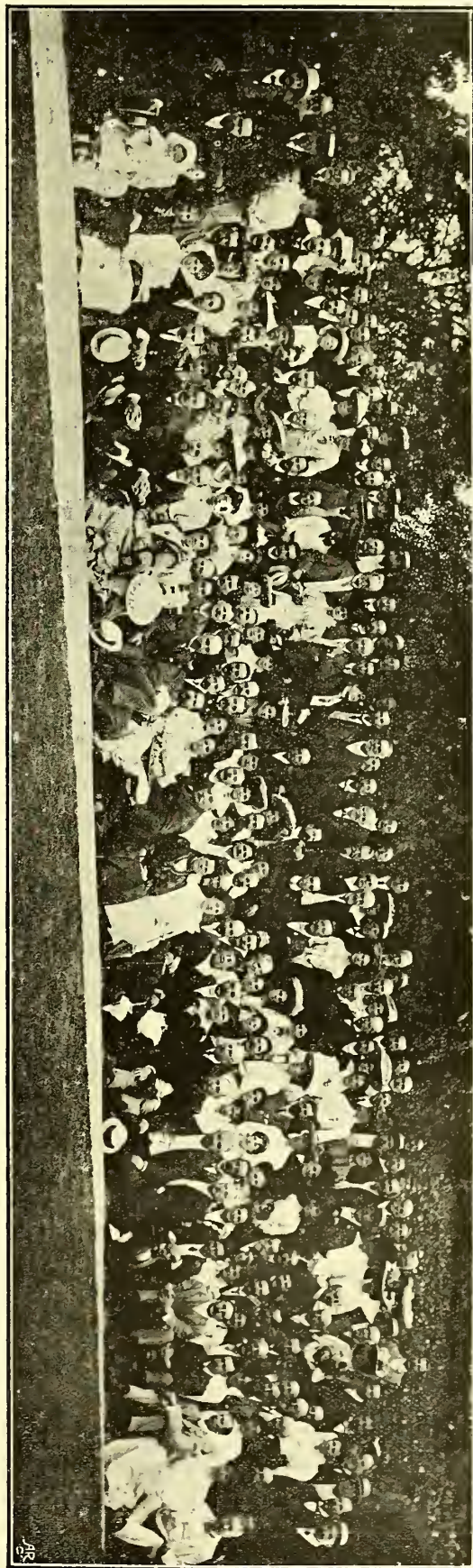
In the evening Mr. W. H. Gibson entertained a select company of gentlemen to dinner in the Hôtel Métropole. Dinner was served in the Clarence Room at 8.30, and Mr. Gibson was supported on the right by Mr. Naylor, the Mayor. Dr. Attfield, Mr. Atkins, and several local medical men. On the left were Mr. Robinson, Mr. Newsholme, and Mr. Drucc. The other guests comprised the chief officers of the Conference, Mr. Gibson's colleagues on the Pharmaceutical Council, and members of the Local Committee, about forty altogether being present. Following is the

MENU.

Melon Cantaloup Glacé.
Tortue Claire.
Saumon Daumont.
Blanchailles Diablées.
Tournedos Cardinale.
Cailles Froides à la Richelieu.
Selle d'Agneau aux Laitues.
Pommes-de-Terre Persillées.
Petits Pois à la Menthe.
Caneton Rôti, sauce aux Pommes.
Salade Cœur de Romaine.
Profiterolles au Chocolat.
Pêches Melba.
Friandises.
Anchois sur Croûtes.
Dessert.
Café.

After dinner and the loyal toast Dr. Attfield proposed the "Prosperity of Brighton" and the health of the Mayor, that dignity responding. Then Mr. Gibson gave the toast of "Pharmacy," for which Mr. Naylor, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Wells responded, as representing the three leading pharmaceutical organisations in the United Kingdom. Mr. Robinson's speech was rather startling and dealt with the controversial subject of warranties under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, he maintaining that it is the legal right of chemists to get from wholesale houses warranties with the drugs and preparations they buy. Mr. Wells confined his remarks to the differences between Irish pharmacy law and that of Great Britain, and he indicated that they are better off in several

Photo by Newman, Magill & Co., Brighton.



respects in Ireland, because they take the fullest possible advantage of the law as it is subject to the sanction of the Privy Council. Dr. Whittle replied to the toast of the "Medical Profession," given by Mr. Atkins in his eloquent manner, and the company gave musical honours to "Mr. Gibson" on the invitation of Mr. Newsholme.

The picture on p. 255 is the group portion of the photograph which was taken in the grounds of Arundel Castle on July 27. The original photograph measures 8½ by 12, the background showing a part of the Castle, and forming a pretty picture. The photographers are Messrs. Newman, Mayall & Co., 91 King's Road, Brighton, from whom copies can be had for 3s. 6d.

The late smoking-concert held in the Conservatory on the Wednesday night after the return of the belated Eastbourne trippers was mainly remarkable for the discovery of a new tenor, who is also a chemist. Several charming solos were sung by Mr. J. H. Franklin, who is in the laboratories of Messrs. James Woolley, Son & Co., Ltd., of Manchester, and he immediately became a prime favourite. Mr. Franklin possesses a beautifully trained tenor voice. It was Mr. Franklin's first Conference, but there was a general hope that it was only the beginning of a series. Other singers who willingly contributed on that and the following evening to these impromptu entertainments were Mrs. Edmund White, Mrs. John C. Umney, Miss Newsholme, Miss Garsed, and Messrs. W. F. Wells, Garsed, Glyn-Jones, and J. C. Umney. A special word of praise is due to Mr. A. J. Franklin (of Brighton) for his excellent arrangements in regard to the musical part of the proceedings. Mr. C. N. Layman presided at Thursday's concert. Miss Evelyn Padwick, who sang at Tuesday evening's concert, is a daughter of Mr. John Padwick, pharmaceutical chemist.

PEBBLES.

[Picked up on Brighton Beach.]

We wander by the wave-beat shore
And watch the smiling sea,
The shadows lengthen more and more
Till, lost in phantasy,
We see fair ladies listless loll
In hopelessness and pain,
All waiting in the Métropole
Till husbands come again.
So gay befrocked,
"Piano locked?"
We hear the low refrain:
*"In dull neglect we linger nigh;
No music weaves its witcherie;
To adamantine hearts we sigh
Till Portia smiles—and brings the key."*

We dream of ducal Castle set
High on the Arun's banks,
We hear the voice of learning yet,
We see (*sub rosa*) pranks;
The mellow Atkins charms us till
We heed no fleeting hour;
The allegoric Druce is still
Pursuing fairest flower.
Anon we watch
A cricket-match
And list 'mid smiles that lower:

*"They're put me on to keep the score
(A lady, and a Layman, I).
To knowledge my ambitions soar,
So tell me, please, what is a 'bye'?"*

And then the final scene sublime:
From sleep who can refrain
When for the nine-and-fortieth time
We hear "that speech" again?
The organisers organise,
While victims nod anew,
And shade their drooping, weary eyes
From High Official view,
And now and then
They murmur, "When—
Oh, when will this be through?"

L'ENVOI.

*If it were so that only sweets
Made up the annual menu, we
Would soon be cloyed, so these surfeits
Of dull infrequent ennui.*

The following are a few scintillations which a visitor to the Conference has sent us:

There were two surprises—the buses and the sea fog.
A view of Arundel Castle and its treasures is a sight of a lifetime.

Arundel Park is a lovely retreat; the drive was immense.
One of the motor-launches had gone on strike.

The Conference photo is A 1.

The photographer had a big task on hand, and he did it very well (he is not cool yet).

The weather was ideal.

Consequently the Conference was a great success.

Chairman Gibson was especially designed to entertain the B.P.C.

Secretary Savage worked hard and well. The more he had to do the better he liked it, and did it.

Yates looked tired, but confident.

The local committee have been granted leave of absence for twenty-one days to recuperate.

Everyone had a good time, and left with a sigh of regret.

Some of the visiting ladies said the President's speech was Chinese.

The ball was a trip to Chinatown.

Dancing to a Fleet(s) Band was fast and furious.

Summer Outings.

To the Leys.

THE members of the Cardiff and District Pharmaceutical Association held their second summer picnic on Wednesday, August 2, when they proceeded in brakes to the Leys, a favourite place of resort on the coast. The weather, though threatening, was fine, and the drive through the charming Vale of Glamorgan was much enjoyed. Tea was partaken of at the Ocean Hotel, after which the party indulged in various games until the time for departure.

To Laindon.

THE employés of Messrs. Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson, Ltd., 40 Aldersgate Street, E.C., had their annual excursion on Saturday, July 29, to Laindon, Essex. A record number sat down to an excellent dinner at the Laindon Hotel. A cricket match was played: Office *v.* Warehouse. Office scored 70 for three wickets (Mr. Hodges 49 not out), and Warehouse 54 (Mr. Wilson 22). Afterwards a programme of sports was gone through, including three-legged race, egg-and-spoon race, wheelbarrow race, sack race, tug-of-war, etc. The Chairman at the dinner was Mr. H. J. Willows, and Mr. E. C. Butler was judge at the sports.

To Southsea.

THE forty-fourth annual dinner of the staff and employés of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Coleman Street, E.C., and the 164th anniversary of the establishment of the firm, took place at the Esplanade Hotel, Southsea, on July 29 under the chairmanship of Mr. H. R. Arnold. The toast of "The Firm," proposed by Mr. R. E. Taylor, was duly honoured, and the Indian representative, Mr. Charles W. White, made one of his customary humorous speeches. After dinner the company took advantage of a lovely day, many crossing over to the Isle of Wight in quest of floral beauty. A number visited Nelson's flagship. After a most enjoyable time had been spent by all, a return to town was made at 7.50 p.m.

To Lough Neagh.

THE annual excursion of the employés of Messrs. John Clarke & Co., wholesale druggists, Belfast, took place on July 29, the rendezvous for the outing being Lough Neagh. The party numbered over 120, and consisted of the staffs from the three Belfast branches of the firm—namely, the wholesale warehouse, Corporation Street; the laboratory and drug warehouse, Lagannen Street; and the pharmacy and orthopaedic workshops, 8 Donegall Square West. The route taken was by rail to Antrim, which was reached shortly after noon, and here the party repaired to the Massereene Arms Hotel, where dinner was served in good style. Then a trip was made on Lough Neagh and the excursionists were photographed by Mr. Robert Welch, of Belfast. A special train conveyed the party from Antrim to Belfast, which was reached at ten.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The British Pharmaceutical Conference

furnishes an interesting study. Gravitating gradually towards annihilation, according to its reports, no one who attends one of its sessions can doubt its inherent vitality. The 73rd. 10s. received for its "Formulary" saves its financial statement this year from a revelation of the unpleasant fact that it is over-running the constable, but its treasurer surveys the position with perennial cheerfulness. Its effective membership now reaches only 725; ten years ago it was 1,130, twenty years ago it was over 2,000, and in 1875, three decades since, it had reached the high-water mark of 2,700. But it was never better lodged, better dressed, more radiant with scientific brilliance, or more resplendent generally, than it was at Brighton last week. George IV.'s parties at the Pavilion were no match in real prettiness with the bright crowd which assembled there for the Mayor's reception on July 24, 1905, if we may judge from the pictures of that egregious gentleman and his bucks and beauties which hang in the upper rooms of his whilom marine palace. One of the reports tells us that the company was a "representative" one. If that means that it was a fair sample of the bulk of British pharmacists, we are a better-off lot than many of us fancied. I am a little afraid, however, that the Conference is and will always be a luxury for a comparative few; and those few who enjoy all its good things and bask in its glory ought to be more gentle towards the multitude who cannot attend the meetings and do not care to subscribe towards the expenses; especially towards those who, having subscribed for a year or two, drop out and are thereupon dubbed "defaulters."

The Lessons of the Conference

are this year rather suggestive than satisfying. We are left in doubt as to the true faith as regards standardisation: what, when, and how to standardise. We are only agreed that Nature needs pharmacologists, analysts, vivisectionists, and physiological laboratories to correct her imperfections and vagaries before the medicines she has provided can be properly prescribed and compounded. Out of 500 papers on radio-activity some advance may be predicated, and Dr. Martindale hints at the application of the radium emanation in a mild form *via* thorium compounds. But I do not gather whether it is settled yet that the application is to be regarded as a risk or a remedy. The anti-cancerous virtues of violet leaves are worthy of the closest study on the part of both medical and pharmaceutical investigators, but it appears that we are not at present clear about what violets to experiment with. The merits of the U.S. Pharmacopœia are not quite universally admitted, only the fringe of the castor-oil investigation was touched, and the curious problem of the reduction of the viscosity of an acacia mucilage by the addition of tragacanth awaits solution. Concentrated infusions have so little character left to lose that one additional attack on it is hardly serious. It should be added that among these rather numerous inconclusive contributions were a few of much more definite value.

The Necessity of an Index

to the "Year-books of Pharmacy" was unconsciously but effectively illustrated by an observation made by Dr. Dixon, the Cambridge physiologist. He showed how little the inconstant science of medicine can be trusted from one year to another. In the "Year-book" for 1904 may be found several paragraphs demon-

strating the virtues of adrenalin as a remedy. It arrested severe pulmonary hæmoptysis, restored a patient pulseless from the hæmorrhage of typhoid, and counteracted the toxic action of cocaine. "Now," says Dr. Dixon, "it is definitely known that adrenalin is immediately destroyed when it reaches the stomach, and can therefore produce no results. This shows how easy it is to imagine effects." Learning that leaps from one conclusion to its exact opposite like this within twelve months obviously requires careful indexing.

Rispondo che non rispondo:

"I reply that I do not reply," was the answer given by an Italian statesman to an importunate parliamentary inquirer. The Home Secretary ought to have adopted a similar form of words in response to Sir John Leng's inconvenient question in reference to the recent additions to the Poisons Schedule. Why, asked the member for Dundee, did not the Privy Council agree to all the poisons recommended by the Pharmaceutical Society? To this Mr. Akers-Douglas compiled an elaborate reply of about a hundred words in which was buried the information that their Lordships had not acceded because they had not chosen to do so. But Sir John's "Why" is still unanswered.

"My Own Specialities"

is a profitable subject to discuss, not much less so than standardisation, and the pharmacist who writes on it in the Summer Number has some useful ideas to communicate. Exception may, however, be taken to one of them. Pharmacist refers to "a line" of own specialities, a complete list of them, and so on. He does not suggest any limit to the inventive genius of his disciple. But is it not possible to be too prolific? The public believes in specialists. It can understand that a chemist may have made one or two great medical discoveries, a liver mixture, perhaps, or a neuralgia pill, but it can hardly stretch its faith to the extent demanded by a bookful of inventions covering the whole field of pathology. Most of the successes we hear of in this direction have been made by chemists who have concentrated their efforts on one preparation.

Co-operative Societies

registered under the Friendly Societies Acts do an aggregate business in this country which must now approach a hundred millions a year, and they pay no income-tax. A Departmental Committee appointed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer has recently looked into this matter and has come to the conclusion that it is not desirable to make a change in this respect. The opinion is of national importance, and it may be hoped will be closely scrutinised by economists. The views of the Committee seem to be based on two considerations. One is that the ten millions distributed among the members of the Societies is not profit, but merely the surplus after buying at cost-price and paying the expense of distributing. In other concerns that is called profit, and it does not lose that character even if the co-operators strictly maintain their principle of dealing only among themselves. The second reason is perhaps more formidable. It is said that the vast majority of the co-operators are persons with incomes below the taxable minimum, who would have the right to claim recoupment. This argument is unassailable so long as the similar claims of shareholders in joint-stock companies have the same right. But it is questionable whether the principle is a sound one. Persons who invest money in a joint-stock trading concern sink their individuality to that extent, and if competition is to be fair, the tax-collector ought not to consider them. A man who makes a thousand a year and has to support a wife and eight children pays the full tax; but the individuals in that case average only 100^l. a year each, and if the joint-stock principle were fairly applied ought all to be exempt.

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Editorial Comments.

"Pushing the Leader."

ANYONE who has studied American and English methods
of business, even in the drug-trade, may have observed that
the essential difference between the two is that Americans,
having ascertained which of their novelties goes best,
select this and devote all their energies and money to it.
This is familiarly phrased "pushing the leader."
The Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations of Great
Britain now has an opportunity of applying this method
of business to its future work, last week's meeting
at Brighton having conclusively demonstrated that the
"leader" for the Federation is the proposal that pharmacy
should have its own representatives in Parliament, or at
least have a better parliamentary organisation than exists
at present. No subject within the range of practical politics
approaches this one in importance for the whole trade, as
every branch of the business is touched yearly by the pro-
ceedings of Parliament, and the Pharmaceutical Societies
are only concerned with the Pharmacy Acts. We think it
will be generally admitted, without derogation of these
Societies, that a more effective method of securing the
representation of our trade opinion is desirable. We appear
to be within measurable distance of the return of a few

chemists as members of Parliament. Mr. T. H. W. Idris is a Liberal candidate for a Welsh constituency, and there is every likelihood that he will be returned at the next election; Mr. R. A. Robinson is spoken of as Unionist candidate for a London constituency, and if he stand he is practically certain of return. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones has already been called into the political arena, and we daresay in a few years he will be ready to offer himself as a candidate for parliamentary honours. Supposing one or all of these chemists are returned to Parliament, what better will the trade be for them? To be frank, we do not think, under present conditions, they could do it much service, because the multifarious duties on behalf of their constituencies and their parties would largely prevent them attending to the details whose neglect has led us to the present comparatively parlous condition. What appears to be needed to begin with, is a central parliamentary bureau for chemists and the drug-trade, which would be in charge of a capable man as familiar with parliamentary matters as with chemists' requirements. Such a bureau would keep close watch on parliamentary proceedings, so as to see what matters affected the interests of the constituent members, and it would be able to gather their views and advise the lines of action which they should follow in order to have their wishes impressed upon Parliament. The bureau would, so to speak, feed members of Parliament who are willing to be regarded as workers for chemists, but who from the exigencies of their official duties could not at any moment be ready with those trade details and opinions which help to shape a policy or decide a course of action. Mr. Idris, speaking at Brighton last week, made suggestions which we took to be practically on these lines. The establishment of such a bureau will not be an easy matter, for to be representative it must necessarily include the statutory bodies—viz., the Pharmaceutical Societies—and should receive their monetary support. It may be supposed that they would prefer to retain their independence, and probably they may consider that their own organisations are adequate for their parliamentary needs. But we feel that if they consider the proposal as part of a scheme of parliamentary representation for pharmacy, and as a clearing-house for trade opinion in legislative matters, they will recognise that it would increase the efficiency of their work without detracting from their dignity. We need to get away from the existing collection of units more or less powerful, and greatly apart from each other, who should have a common centre of action near the seat of Parliament. Such a bureau would probably cost 500*l.* a year, chiefly in salary to the Parliamentary Secretary. This cannot be made up by subscriptions from individuals, although many would be willing to help: the money should come to a large extent from those bodies who can use the central organisation. It could not be run by the Federation—in fact, that body's interest in the matter is solely to push it along, and by this or other means secure more effective parliamentary representation than at present exists on all questions which affect the interests of retail and wholesale chemists. Now that the idea has been discussed by trade representatives we trust it will not be dropped until something tangible comes of it.

Government Chemistry.

LAST week we referred briefly to some of the points in the annual report of the Principal Chemist of the Government Laboratory, and return to the subject as there are other matters in it of interest to our readers. The decrease in the analyses conducted in the Customs branch of the Laboratory is due to fewer polarisation tests of sugar

samples having been done and to the fact that samples of grain products have disappeared from the Laboratory returns. In 28,196 samples of goods tested for liability to spirit duty, 1,587 samples of drugs, medicinal and toilet preparations, were included, as well as 1,245 of flavouring essences and perfumes, 38 of chloroform, chloral hydrate and collodion, 63 of ethers, 36 of ethyl bromide, chloride, and iodide, and 880 samples of chemicals not enumerated. The figures for wines (15,824) include medicinal preparations having a wine basis. Fusel oil is free of duty provided the spirit usually present in the commercial article does not exceed 15 per cent., and pear oil made from it is similarly free if the acetic ether present is not more than would be derived from the above percentage of spirit. Among the miscellaneous foods examined we notice 52 samples of sheep-dips, fumigating-powder, and medicinal cigarettes. More tea has been tested during the year, and out of 3,260 samples, 316 were condemned and denatured with lime and asafetida for the manufacture of caffeine. The sheep-dips and fumigating-powders were preparations containing tobacco extract or nicotine, which Dr. Thorpe notes are growing in favour. No fewer than 4,473 samples of goods were examined on the import side of the saccharin-products department, these including drugs, sugar-coated pills, lozenges, milk powder, infants' food, and liquorice. The closest watch is kept for saccharin, which is liable to be found in unexpected places. In 55 cases the substance was found to be saccharin, or substances which might possibly be used for the manufacture of saccharin in this country. In the exports section of the sugar-product department 3,558 samples were examined, the articles being similar to those imported. There is a note to the effect that a scheme of reorganisation of the staff at the Customs branch of the Government Laboratory has been sanctioned during the year, by which a small staff of permanent analysts and a number of temporary assistants recruited from the Customs service, after being trained for two years at the Royal College of Science, are employed in the Customs Laboratory.

Passing now to the consideration of the Excise Department, we observe that out of 1,011 samples of ginger, herb, and botanic beers examined, 361 were found to contain spirit in excess of the legal limit. Of these, 8 contained 6 per cent. or more of spirit, 42 contained 4 per cent. but less than 6 per cent., and 78 showed between 3 and 4 per cent. A few samples of brewing materials were found to contain arsenic in excess of the limits given by the Royal Commission on Arsenical Poisoning. In regard to the exportation of medicinal tinctures there have been but few occasions for complaint with respect to inaccuracies in the traders' declarations. Wood-naphtha samples representing 370,597 gals. were examined, and only 9 rejected. The total quantity of wood naphtha used during last year is practically the same as in the previous year, this being accounted for by the fact that more efficient recovery plants are in use and there has been an increased use of spirit otherwise denatured than with wood naphtha. The specially denatured alcohol for manufacturing purposes has increased to 267,706 proof gals., compared with 206,452 gals. in the previous year. The quantity (2,680) of proof gals. of spirit allowed to be used duty free in science schools is practically the same as in the previous year. Among the special denaturants are mentioned camphor, toluene, nitro-toluene, and animal oils. No illegal use of methylated spirit in medicinal and other preparations has been detected. The report refers to the Departmental Committee on Sheep-dipping, and states that a large number of dips have been analysed at the Government Laboratory in connection with the official schedule of approved dips. Up to March 31, 44 dips had been analysed.

The Board of Trade sent samples of the drugs supplied to passenger ships for examination at the Laboratory, and it is stated that the drugs "as in previous years showed a satisfactory conformity with the requirements of the British Pharmacopœia." The number of reference samples examined under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts was 109 (exclusive of 49 samples of butter referred from Malta), 4 of the milk samples could not be analysed for various reasons, and of the 105 samples examined the Government Laboratory analysts differed from the public analysts in 10 cases, a rather smaller proportion than usual. In regard to 3 samples of cod-liver oil, the presence of a foreign fish oil was confirmed, and the only sample of tartaric acid examined was found to contain $\frac{1}{10}$ grain of arsenic per lb.

Assignment for Benefit of Creditors.

A case (*Petrie v. Davis*) recently decided in the High Court shows how very necessary some knowledge of the law is. The point at issue was as to whether a discharge for a payment made to the trustee under an assignment for benefit of creditors was good as against the claim of the trustee subsequently appointed under bankruptcy proceedings. A owed B a debt, B found it necessary to execute an assignment for the benefit of his creditors, and the trustee under the deed called upon A for payment of his debt, which was duly made before the expiration of three months from the date of deed. B was subsequently adjudicated bankrupt, and the trustee appointed under these proceedings thereupon called upon A for payment of his debt over again, and although A pleaded that the amount had already been paid, the Court decided he must pay again. It was argued that the payment made by A was a *bonâ-fide* payment, and so had statutory protection, but the protection afforded by Section 49 of the Bankruptcy Act only applies when the person paying has no notice of an available act of bankruptcy. In this case, however, the very deed under which A paid was itself an available act of bankruptcy until the period of three months from its date had elapsed, and therefore afforded no protection. It is common knowledge that payments are frequently made to trustees under creditors' deeds before the expiration of three months from date of same, but there is always a real risk in doing so, and this should be borne in mind when payment under such circumstances is sought.

The "Year-book" Index.

The general index to the "Year-books of Pharmacy" for 1886 to 1903, which was referred to last week, is being issued to subscribers. It has been prepared by Mr. J. O. Braithwaite, and must have entailed an enormous amount of labour. Comparing it with the general index previously published, covering the years 1864 to 1885, we note many differences. The last-mentioned index ran to 246 pages, whereas the new volume contains 514 pages. Mr. Braithwaite has made his index a classified one and hence, in using the two indices, the difference must be borne in mind. We think it would have been better to have adhered to the form of the first general index, particularly as that form is considered the better by authorities on indexing. We would not like this to be taken as any reflection on Mr. Braithwaite, as he has undoubtedly introduced some improvements which make the work easier to use. The figures indicating the year are now printed in blacker type and botanical names in italics. It will be noted, too, that Mr. Braithwaite has settled the vexed question as to whether the specific botanical name should be spelt with a capital letter or small letter by using small letters throughout. The index will be of great use for reference purposes to those who have the series of year-books which it covers, and it is obtainable from the

Hon. Secretaries of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.

Last Year's Failures.

The operation of the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" is succinctly summed up annually in a melancholy document entitled "Report of the Inspector-General in Bankruptcy." It is depressing literature at the best of times, but the report for the year 1904 is doubly so, for we learn that the total number of cases of bankruptcy and deeds of arrangement dealt with by the Courts during the year was an increase of 723 on the previous year. The liabilities, as estimated by debtors, was no less than 2,411,075*l.* more than in 1903, the estimated assets were 729,236*l.* more, and the estimated loss to creditors an increase of 2,045,043*l.* Curiously enough, the figures of "estimated loss" approximate closely those of 1895—a decade ago—those of the intervening years being less by a million, and in some instances two millions. So that it cannot be argued that the country generally is become more prone to bankruptcy as the years go by, the figures being fairly constant. Coming down to our own trade, we find that the number of receiving orders and administration orders under Section 125 made by "chemists and druggists" in 1904 was 25—exactly the same number as in 1903. The number for "doctors of medicine, surgeons, etc.," was 18 for 1904, as against 20 in 1903. A comparative table showing total failures under Bankruptcy and Deeds of Arrangement Acts puts the total for "chemists and druggists" at 68, with total liabilities 52,243*l.*, an increase of 18 in number and 20,918*l.* in money on 1903. The total for "doctors of medicine, surgeons, etc.," was 21—the same as in 1903—but the liabilities in 1904 amounted to 3,682*l.* more. Among the "chemists and druggists" were two women who executed deeds of arrangement, with liabilities estimated at 1,736*l.*, and assets 593*l.*

Presentation to Alderman Idris, J.P., L.C.C.

ON August 2 the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of St. Pancras, together with many private friends, assembled at the Town Hall to present Alderman T. H. W. Idris with his portrait in recognition of his services to the borough during his Mayoral year. The picture, which is painted by Mr. J. Coutts Michie, an exhibitor of the Royal Academy and the Paris Salon, represents the ex-Mayor in his official robes, and is a capital likeness. At the same meeting Mrs. Idris was presented with a diamond and sapphire bracelet. The present Mayor, Alderman Purchase, in making the presentation, dwelt on the many public services which Alderman Idris has rendered not only to the borough of St. Pancras, but also to London in the larger arena of the London County Council. During Mr. Idris' mayoralty the Free Libraries Act was adopted and better safeguards were established for the maintenance of public morality, while in every other thing that concerned charity and philanthropy Mr. Idris was always ready to place himself and his purse at the disposal of every good object. The two ex-Mayors of St. Pancras, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Matthews, followed in similar language. The Mayor then formally made the presentations, which Mr. and Mrs. Idris severally acknowledged.

The original painting has been presented by Mr. Idris to the Town Hall, but a replica is to find a place in Mr. Idris's home.

THE exportation of gum arabic and other gums from the port of Suez during 1904 amounted to 6,510 tons, valued at 146,522*l.*, an increase of 2,450 tons, valued at 53,731*l.*, over the previous year. Nearly one-fourth of the above quantity was shipped to France, the remainder being distributed between the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. THOMAS CHRISTY & Co., Old Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C., have been appointed sole managing agents for Arabella Natural Mineral Water.

THE works of Messrs. Bennett, Sons, and Shears, Ltd., 167 Kingsland Road, N.E., will be closed for the holidays from Friday evening, August 4, till Monday, August 14.

SYPHON-VOUCHERS.—Messrs. James Townsend & Sons, chemists' printers, London and Exeter, are offering syphon-voucher, with detachable labels, in boxes, each voucher being consecutively numbered.

IN A RECENT ISSUE of "Madame" there is a reproduction of a photograph taken on the late visit of the King and Queen to Southwark. The illustration shows the King and Queen "passing the offices of the proprietors of Wright's Coal-tar Soap."

SOLYPTOL SOAP.—Messrs. F. H. Faulding & Co., 54 Great Tower Street, London, E.C., are introducing this popular colonial soap to the home market. It is a toilet soap combined with olive oil and containing Faulding's soluble eucalyptus oil as a perfume, disinfectant, and antiseptic.

"PRIMOIDS" is the name of a new series of compressed developers which are being introduced by Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, E.C. The series comprises metol-quinone, pyro-soda, and hydro-quinone developers and Tone-Fix, these being packed in cartons to retail at 1s. each.

CHINOSOL AND ITS PREPARATIONS.—Messrs. B. Kühn & Co., 16 Rood Lane, Eastcheap, E.C., inform us that they have heard rumours that Chinosol and its preparations are no longer obtainable. This is erroneous, as they are the proprietors of the Chinosol Hygienic Co., and can supply these and other goods handled by Mr. B. Kühn.

ONE OF THE ATTRACTIONS in the July issue of the "Traveling Partner," issued by Smith's Advertising Agency, 100 Fleet Street, E.C., is a well-informed article on "How to introduce a patent-medicine." The writer tells of the rise (and fall) of once well-known medicinal proprietaries like "World's family pills," "Soule's hop bitters," "Frazer's sulphur tablets," etc. He points out the advertising errors committed in each instance, and offers pregnant suggestions as to the proper method of putting and keeping a proprietary medicine on the market.

CAPTAIN R. J. BLACKHAM, D.P.H., London, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, has published through the Nursing Committee, Bulford, Salisbury Plain, a useful little pamphlet entitled "Hints on the Care of Children." It deals chiefly with the feeding, but Captain Blackham (erst-while chemist's assistant) gets in such strong opinions as this:

"Dummies" or "baby-soothers" are the cause of much diarrhoea and sickness in children, as it is impossible to keep rubber clean when kept in a child's mouth for long periods. They should be prohibited by Act of Parliament! We do not think soothers are so bad as this. They are occasionally abused, but generally they give peace where none existed before they came into the field.



THE figure here given represents a "Patriotic Stamp," introduced by Mr. Frederick Hawke, of 2 Queenhithe, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C., and is suggested to be put on goods made in Great Britain (and Ireland, we suppose, but many "patriots" forget the Ould Country) to denote their origin, with a view to the encouragement of home industries. The plan has been adopted in Canada with great success, and although it has been in operation

there but a few months, it has been taken up very widely, and in addition to using them upon goods, the Canadians frequently attach them to the left-hand corner of envelopes sent through the post, as an advertisement. The stamp is printed in red and blue on white.

A COUNTER-ADJUNCT.—One of the most useful "counter-adjuncts" that a pharmacist can possess is the book, "Hawley's Novel Counter-adjuncts"—a handsome quarto

volume of 312 pages, issued by Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., of London and Liverpool. The present issue is the sixth edition, and the production from a purely publisher's point of view is extremely creditable. It is well printed in clear type on good paper, and the illustrations are admirable reproductions of the engraver's art. The book is arranged in five sections, under titles of "The Pharmacy," "The Toilet," "The House," "Recent Materia Medica," and "Index" respectively. The first is, of course, by far the largest of the sections comprising, as it does, over 140 pages, subdivided into "tonics," "laxatives," "cough-medicines," and twenty-four subdivisions besides. The notes on "Recent Materia Medica" have been prepared under the personal supervision of Mr. F. Harwood Lescher, and references are made to Mr. Lescher's well-known book on the subject and to "The Counter-adjunct," issued monthly by the company. This section will be found of much value to retail pharmacists, followed as it is by a number of blank leaves for affixing notes. A copy of the book will be forwarded to any chemist desirous of obtaining one on application to 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool, or to 60 Bartholomew Close, London, E.C.

General Board of Opticians.

THE reporting arrangements of the General Board of Opticians are in charge of the Hon. Secretaries, hence it happens that we have only this week received the official report of the proceedings which followed the meeting of January 19, reported in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at the time. From the official report it appears that the Executive Committee and sub-committees have met twelve times and the General Board three times. At the meeting of the Board on March 17 divisional committees were appointed for Glasgow, Dublin, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Norwich, Bristol, and London. The duties of these committees are "to arouse local enthusiasm, to obtain the support of members of Parliament, to secure subscription and guarantees for the Central Funds, and to encourage as far as possible general support for the actions of the Central Board."

As regards the Sight-testing Bill the Executive rejected the words "optology" and "optistry" on the advice of the Parliamentary agents and recommended "sight-testing" and "testing sight" as the proper expressions to be used in the Bill. A deputation from the Board waited on Mr. Alban Gibbs, M.P., and Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Bart., M.P., at the House of Commons on March 29, and a reply was received from Mr. Gibbs and considered by the General Board on May 31. The letter from Mr. Gibbs touched the principle of whether there should be more than one fully representative registering and certificating body. "The multiplication of responsible bodies would, according to Mr. Gibbs, make the promotion of the Bill more difficult and give greater openings for effective opposition. A long discussion took place at the meeting, and finally it was resolved that such alterations be made in the Bill as will constitute the Spectacle-makers' Company the sole registering and certificating body. As the matter now stands the Spectacle-makers' Company are to be asked if they are willing to undertake the responsibilities proposed to be conferred on them, and then Mr. Gibbs will be approached to introduce the Bill into Parliament."

Mr. C. Hyatt Woolfe has been elected a member of the Executive Committee in place of the late Mr. S. Cowan, and, as interesting to chemist-opticians, we may note that Mr. J. Harcombe Cuff, the Secretary of the Society of Chemist-Opticians, has accepted the Deputy-Chairmanship of the Executive Committee.

THE exports of aniseed from Malaga during 1904 were 2,276 tons, against 2,158 tons in 1903 and 2,107 tons in 1902.

THE exports of beeswax from Barcelona during 1904 amounted to 3,942 tons, against 4,360 tons in 1903 and 2,119 tons in 1902.

AMONG the exports from Beirut during 1904 were 7,500 bales of liquorice root, compared with 8,485 bales in the previous year; 1,100 barrels of olive oil, compared with 364 barrels. The liquorice root went exclusively to the United States and the olive oil to France and Italy.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

A PLASMON ACTION.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Warrington, in the Chancery Division, on Friday, July 28, Mr. H. Terrell, K.C., mentioned the case of *International Plasmon, Ltd., v. Plasmonade*, in which he had a motion for an injunction. The defendants wanted to answer affidavits, and it was agreed that it should stand over for a week.

RHADAMINE AND RACEIN.

On December 12, 1904, Mr. Justice Buckley, on the application of the *Badische Anilin und Soda-Fabrik*, granted an injunction restraining Mr. Edward Hickson, Bentley Street, Bradford, from infringing patents of 1891 and 1892 covering these dyes, which it was alleged he had imported from abroad (see *C. & D.*, December 17, 1904, p. 978). His Lordship made no order in respect to a third patent (No. 19,374 of 1887) and the plaintiffs appealed, the case being heard by Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Cozens Hardy, on Wednesday, August 2. After hearing Mr. Graham, for the appellants, and Mr. Walter, for the respondent (the latter arguing that there had been no sale of the goods within the Realm), the Court dismissed the appeal. Lord Justice Vaughan Williams said it must have occurred often in past times that there were agents and merchants in England who made it their business to sell English patented productions which had been manufactured abroad, and no doubt of recent years the practice had been to evade the intention of the Monopolies Act and of the grant to the patentees by taking care that in form the merchant was not a party to the delivery. The practice had become so prevalent that everyone knew the exact steps which must be taken to enable one to get patented articles distributed within the Realm and deprive the patentee of the remuneration he thought he ought to have. The present case was covered by authority, so the appeal must be dismissed, with costs.

THE BENEDICTINE TRADE-MARK.

A CARDIFF spirit-merchant, trading as the South Wales Liquor-compounding Co., is applying in the Chancery Division for the rectification of the Register of Trade-marks by striking off ten marks registered by the distillery company at Fécamp in France, which makes the "D.O.M." Benedictine liqueur, on the ground that the marks are deceptive and technically wrong. Abbé Gasquet, head of the Benedictines in England, stated in evidence on August 2 that there is no trace in the history of his Order of any secret recipe for the liqueur, or of it having been made by the Benedictines, and he objected to the association with the Order which is suggested by the labels and wrappers of the bottles. On the other hand, a foreign monk, Father Nollé, was sent over by the Abbé Primate Hildebrand de Heptine, the head of the whole Order, to say that he holds a contrary view, and that physics used to be made by the Benedictine Order. The recipe is alleged to have been given by a monk in 1792 to the great-grandmother of M. le Grand, whose firm now makes the liqueur at Fécamp.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

GINGER-WINE.

At Salisbury, on July 25, William Edward Halls, of Normansland, was fined 1*l.* 1*s.*, including costs, for selling ginger-wine containing 6 grains per pint of salicylic acid.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

At Sheffield, on July 27, Allen Green, 16 Saxon Road, and Ada Barr, 54 Sharrow Lane, were each fined 10*s.* for selling camphorated oil which was not of B.P. strength.

GLYCERIN.

THE case of alleged adulteration of glycerin with arsenic, against Taylor's Drug Company, Ltd., at the Bradford Police Court, which a fortnight ago was adjourned until July 28, was on that day withdrawn, neither of the parties putting in an appearance.

SPIRIT OF NITROUS ETHER.

At the Burnley Police Court on Wednesday, August 2, John Thomas Butterwerth, chemist and druggist, Oxford Road,

was summoned for selling spirit of nitrous ether which contained only 1.09 per cent. of ethyl nitrite instead of 1.75. Defendant's manager said the cork in the bottle sent by the inspector was a leaky one, and there was no doubt some of the liquid had evaporated. The officer was fifteen minutes before he corked the bottle. This the constable denied. The analyst stated that no change had taken place which would make any difference to the analysis. The manager said a stoppered bottle ought to have been sent. The Chief Constable said that if the officer had sent a stoppered bottle he would not have got the same sample. A fine of 10*s.* and costs was imposed.

At the Sheffield Police Court on August 1, John Smith, grocer, 134 Porter Street, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre deficient in nitrous ether. He did not appear and his wife told the Bench that she had no idea as to her husband's whereabouts. A fresh summons was directed, and if it is not replied to a warrant will be issued.

Revenue Acts.

SACCHARIN-MANUFACTURE.

JOSEPH McNICHOL and JOHN McNICHOL have been remanded by the Manchester Stipendiary on a charge of manufacturing saccharin without a licence and with intent to defraud the Inland Revenue.

County Court Cases.

THE VENDORS' RESPONSIBILITY.

At Marylebone County Court, on July 31, Sir William Selfe and a jury heard the action of Carter *v.* Roper. Miss Margaret Carter, of Acot Road, West Hampstead, bought on exchange a set of hair-combs from Messrs. W. Roper, drapers, of High Road, Kilburn, the defendants in the action. While sitting in front of the fire the comb flared up and burned her hair. She said that when she had purchased the combs the shop-girl had assured her they were bone. Medical evidence was called to prove that the roots of the hair on a certain part of the scalp had been destroyed, and that the lady would be partially bald for ever. Mr. Ernest J. Parry, analytical chemist, of 208 High Street, Borough, explained that celluloid was a mixture of materials which were highly inflammable. The witness told His Honour that in some shops it was the custom to mark celluloid goods by stamping them. For the defence it was contended that no representation had been made or warranty given to the plaintiff. Judge Selfe thought it was stretching the point rather too far to hold the draper responsible for damages in such a case, but the jury awarded the plaintiff 50*l.* and 4*l.* odd special damages. Judgment accordingly, with costs.

AN ERRAND-BOY'S NOTICE.

BEFORE Judge Addison, K.C., at the Southwark County Court on Tuesday, August 1, Fredk. Swart, an errand-boy, sued E. Haynes, chemist, 72 Southampton Row, W.C., to recover 12*s.*, a week's wages, and 12*s.* in lieu of notice. The lad said he was in the defendant's service only four days. The defendant asked him to sweep up the shop and something else, but being a little deaf he did not catch the last order. When he had swept the shop he asked what else he had to do, and the defendant replied that he had already told him. Witness replied that he did not hear or he would not have asked again, whereupon the defendant said he did not want any more of his insolence and told him to go, offering him 8*s.* for the part of the week. Witness refused to accept the money, upon which the defendant took him by the collar and threw him out of the shop. The defendant said he told the boy to sweep the shop in a certain way, but he was disobedient and would not do it the right way, and witness told him to go. His Honour: What did he say? Did he say he would not do it?—The Defendant: No, he did not say anything; he was silently disobedient. I gave him 2 lbs. of bark to crush in a mortar and he made the remark that that was workhouse work. His Honour remarked that there was no more disagreeable person than a servant who would not do a thing in a way a master wanted it done, but such conduct would only justify notice, and not summary dismissal. Deliberate disobedience by refusal to obey orders justified instant dismissal. He sympathised with the defendant, and had he given the plaintiff notice he would

have richly deserved it, but as it was he was entitled to a week's wages and a week in lieu of notice. Judgment was entered for the plaintiff for 1*l.* 4*s.*, and costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re ALFRED CHARLES WILLIAMS, 65 High Road, Broadway, Ilford, Homœopathic Chemist.—The first meeting of creditors was held at the offices of the Official Receiver, 14 Bedford Row, W.C., on July 28. Debtor's statement of affairs shews liabilities 1,067*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and assets nil. The Chairman, having dealt with the proofs, said that the receiving order was made on the petition of creditors, and an order for summary administration of the estate had been made by the Court. The debtor, according to his preliminary examination, commenced to carry on business somewhere about February 1903, when he admits he had no capital, and in his deficiency account he showed that he had made a loss in carrying on the business from that date to the date of the receiving order of 745*l.* The Sheriff of Essex had sold the debtor's effects in March last on an execution issued by Mr. King, a creditor, and it was to the proceedings taken against him by Mr. King that the debtor attributed his insolvency. The lease of the premises was held by Messrs. Fieldings, Ltd., as security for a loan. There was no offer, and the matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to wind up in bankruptcy.

Re TASKER SPENCER KEYS, 487 High Road, Tottenham, Middlesex, and lately of Auckland Road West, Southsea, Hants.—This debtor, who was publicly examined at the Portsmouth Court on July 31, described himself as a manufacturing chemist "at the present time," having previously followed the profession of a medical assistant. Particulars of his career were given in the *C. & D.*, July 22, p. 131. His evidence was to the same effect. With regard to the chemist's business at Tottenham, he said he believed he got good value for the 450*l.* which he had paid to Messrs. Oliver & Co., and from 250*l.* to 300*l.* would represent goodwill. The remainder would be tangible assets, stock and trade fixtures. He was not aware that Messrs. Judd & Manners, who had assisted him in the formation of the company, and who had bought the shares he had sold, were now offering 2*s.* 6*d.* per share for 101 which he still held. He knew that the shares were bought for a Mr. William Henry Green, who was going to put in a manager, not being in the business himself. Mr. Pearson Burnes, a chemist and druggist, was one of the directors; the others were persons in the employ of the company as clerks and in similar capacities. He (bankrupt) was managing director, and his qualification was 101 shares, to which he had reduced his holding. He was to be paid a salary "according to results," but as the results had been nothing he had received nothing. Since the commencement of the bankruptcy proceedings there had been nothing done at the shop, and it might just as well have been shut up. He had not received a farthing from the company since its formation, having lived on his friends during that time. The shop had been managed by an assistant, who had been paid every week. He (bankrupt) had received nothing, but had expected he would soon be making from 500*l.* to 700*l.* a year, but that had all been dissipated by his bankruptcy. After some further questions the Official Receiver intimated that he should probably have to examine other persons in this matter, so the proceedings were adjourned.

Re GEORGE JOHN KIRKUP, 13 Warrington Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and carrying on business as a chemist at 9 Westmoreland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—The public examination was held at the Newcastle County Court on July 27. Debtor stated that his liabilities were 1,263*l.* 9*s.* and free assets 618*l.*, showing a deficit of 644*l.*, but among the assets was a surplus of 190*l.*, which was an estimated figure. Debtor said he commenced business as a chemist about fourteen years ago with a capital of 100*l.* Two years ago, in order to obtain further capital, he formed the mineral-water part of his business into a limited company, for the transfer of which he was to receive 500*l.* in cash and 1,500 *l.* shares. Only 40*l.* of shares in the Kirkup Mineral-water Co., Ltd., were subscribed for, and debtor took 500 preference shares instead of the cash, and these shares were of no value now, as the company was being wound up. One of the principal assets of the company was 500*l.* worth of syphons, bearing the name and address of the firm. Debtor stated he had had a number of transactions with money-lenders, and the rate of interest charged by them was about 10 per cent. His transactions appeared in his account-books, of which he had kept an ordinary set, but the ledger did not contain his personal drawing account, profit-and-loss account, or capital account. Stock had only been taken once in fourteen years, and that was three months ago. As managing director of the Kirkup Mineral-water Co. he received a salary of 110*l.* per annum,

and the company was now his debtor to the amount of 251*l.*, which included part salary. In May debtor entered into negotiations to sell his business to Taylors' Drug Co., Ltd., of Leeds, the purchasers to take the stock and fixtures at a valuation and to pay 100*l.* for goodwill. This purchase, however, was not completed, owing to Taylors' Drug Co. not being able to get 200 debentures in the Kirkup Mineral-water Co. as security for 200*l.* deficiency in the business at that time. The debtor was to become manager of the business for Messrs. Taylor. He anticipated that the purchase-money would clear all his liabilities, and the Official Receiver suggested that the basis of the negotiations throughout was that Messrs. Taylor expected they were acquiring from a perfectly sound and solvent man, and when they discovered that was not the case the negotiations fell through. The examination was adjourned.

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

Owen, E., and Owen, F. J., under the style of the Irristum Co., Stockwell Road, South Lambeth, S.W., patent-medicine manufacturers.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Corbin, E. R. St. Clair, Beckenham, Kent, doctor of medicine.

New Companies & Company News.

SUKRINE, LTD.—Registered in Scotland. Capital 1,500*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry out an agreement made with Thomas Thompson, manufacturing chemist, Edinburgh, to acquire the trade-mark registered as "Sukrine," and to carry on the wholesale and retail manufacturing and sale of the article known under the registered name. The first subscribers are Thomas Thompson, chemist, 16 Warrender Park Crescent, Edinburgh; Henry Tyhurst, 36 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh; William Jenkinson Richardson, chemist, 100 Braid Road, Edinburgh; David Campbell, fishmonger, 56 Morningside Drive, Edinburgh; John Waugh, metal merchant, 11 Dundas Street, Edinburgh; William Ramsay, Shetland, hosier, 32 Frederick Street, Edinburgh; James Brumfitt, woollen merchant, 3 Cornwallis Street, Edinburgh; Edward A. Hay, commercial traveller, 2 Merchiston Park, Edinburgh.

FORBES ABBOTT & LENNARD, LTD.—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (3.635 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of Forbes Abbott & Lennard, Ltd. (incorporated in 1896); to adopt an agreement between the said old company of the first part, J. A. Fletcher (as trustee for this company) of the second part, J. Abbott of the third part, and J. Forbes and F. Lennard of the fourth part, and to carry on the business of chemical manufacturers and merchants, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. Abbott, E. A. Abbott, and J. A. Fletcher; J. Forbes and F. Lennard are also to join the board after the purchase agreement has been adopted and certain debentures have been issued pursuant thereto. Qualification (except first directors), 500*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. In consequence of the above reconstruction a voluntary winding-up order of the old company has been made, the liquidator being Mr. A. Yeatman, 2 Coleman Street, E.C., chartered accountant.

SPRATT'S PATENT, LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 4*s.* per share on the ordinary shares.

JOHN OAKLEY & SONS, LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary shares for the half-year ended June 30 last at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

"SANTAS" Co., LTD.—The directors have declared the payment of an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the six months ended June 30, 1905, payable on and after September 1 next.

BOVRIL, LTD.—The directors have resolved to pay an interim dividend for the six months ended June 30 last on the preference shares at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum, and on the ordinary shares at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

Last year the port of Beirut imported 1,160 cases of drugs and medicines, an increase of 340 cases on the previous year. France, Italy, and the United Kingdom were the principal suppliers, a small percentage coming from Germany.

Personalities.

MR. J. E. GREY (not Grieg) gave evidence in the Edinburgh bile bean case recently on behalf of his employer, Mr. Davidson.

MR. J. H. HAYWOOD, surgical-appliance manufacturer, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the city of Nottingham.

MR. J. CLIFFORD WILLIAMS, son of Mr. J. H. Williams, pharmaceutical chemist, Bournemouth, has passed the London University Matriculation Examination.

ALDERMAN GIBSON, of Manchester (Robert Gibson & Sons, Ltd., medicated-lozenge manufacturers), who has recently passed through a severe operation, is progressing satisfactorily.

MR. A. E. HOLDEN (Fairchild Bros. & Foster, London) is leaving for New York in a few days to spend his annual vacation in his Canadian home. Mr. Holden will spend some time in New York on business.

At the recent examination of the Royal Academy of Music, a certificate of merit, the highest award of the Academy, was given to Miss Elsie F. Cocks, daughter of Mr. J. W. Cocks, chemist, Torquay, for organ-playing and choir-training.

MR. W. WATSON-WILL, F.C.S., F.L.S., principal of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, is, we are pleased to hear, steadily recovering from the relapse that he had a few weeks ago, and he hopes to spend a few weeks in the country before the school session resumes.

In connection with the completion of the Society of Chemical Industry's most successful annual meeting, it seems desirable to record that King Edward VII. received a representative group of the officers at Buckingham Palace on July 14. They were Dr. W. H. Nichols, president; Professor C. F. Chandler, past-president; Dr. Edward Divers, president-elect; Mr. A. Gordon Salamon, Chairman of the London Section; and Mr. Julian Baker, Secretary of the London Section.

Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor.

MR. WILLIAM T. GOLDTHORPE, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business formerly carried on by the late Mr. S. Hewson, at Butcher Row, Beverley.

We are informed that the statement in our Supplement last week to the effect that Mr. W. J. Dalby had acquired the business of Mr. Hemingway, formerly carried on at 291 Finchley Road, N.W., is incorrect. Our correspondent explains that he found the premises closed, and a notice posted up that the prescription-books had been purchased by Mr. W. J. Dalby.

Births.

BLAKER.—On July 28, the wife of Alderman F. Blaker, J.P., Mayor of Brighton, of a daughter.

FURNESS.—On July 29, at Bleak House, Hope, the wife of J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, Sheffield, of a son.

HOLE.—At Lilycombe, Pinhoe Road, Exeter, on July 25, the wife of W. Clifford Hole, chemist and druggist, of a son.

MORRIS.—At the Medical Hall, Clynderwen, on July 19, the wife of Mr. Henry Morris, chemist and druggist, of a son.

Marriages.

GILMOUR—GRAHAM.—At 22 Woodhead Street, Dunfermline, on August 1, by the Rev. W. A. Hutchison, assisted by the Rev. R. Alexander and the Rev. J. Gilmour, B.D. (uncle of the bridegroom), Mr. John Gilmour, pharmaceutical chemist, Dunfermline, to Marion Rebecca, youngest daughter of Mr. David Graham.

LOW—HANDS.—At St. Paul's Church, Wandsworth, on July 31, William Arthur Low, chemist and druggist, Portslade, to Violet Mary, only daughter of the late Mr. J. Hands, of Rugby.

ROBSON—BROWN.—At the United Free High Church, The Mound, Edinburgh, on July 27, by the Rev. R. S. Simpson, M.A., and the Rev. David Kilpatrick, of Newhaven United Free Church, Charles F. Hope Robson to Joan, daughter of Mr. David Brown, of Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., manufacturing chemists, Edinburgh, and Willowbrae House, Piershill.

TANKARD—WARDLEY.—August 1, at Carver Street Wesleyan Chapel, by the Rev. A. Winsor Yeo, Arnold Rowsby Tankard, F.C.S. (chemist to Messrs. Philip Harris & Co., of Birmingham), eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Tankard, of Bradford, to Alice, second daughter of Councillor W. F. Wardley, J.P., and Mrs. Wardley, Sheffield.

Deaths.

BOUCHER.—At Parham House, Tyndall's Park Road, Clifton, on July 29, Mr. John Boucher, pharmaceutical chemist, aged seventy. Mr. Boucher had been from his earliest business days associated with the firm of Messrs. Ferris, Townsend, Boucher & Co., of Union Street, becoming in due course a partner in the concern. He was methodical in his attention to business and unrelaxing in his zeal, going regularly "down town" even after physical disability made the walk too much for him. He was unassuming in manner and of kindly disposition, and though he took no active part in public affairs, he followed them with close and critical interest. He was a Conservative and a Churchman. Mr. Boucher leaves a large family, some members of which are well known in the tennis world, Mr. J. M. Boucher being the Gloucestershire champion, whilst his sister, Miss Boucher, holds the ladies' championship for the county. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at Redland Green, and the large attendance around the graveside testified to the great respect in which the deceased gentleman was held.

GREER.—On July 19, at Portadown, Mr. Roger Greer, aged twenty-eight. Mr. Greer, who was manager in Portadown for Mr. T. L. Cole, L.P.S.L., died suddenly while attending to his duties. The medical evidence at the inquest showed that death was due to heart disease, from which the deceased had been suffering for some time. Mr. Greer, who had only been in Portadown for a few weeks, was a native of Cavan, and leaves a wife and four young children.

HULME.—At 10 Trenant Road, Claremont Park, Irlams-o'-th'-Height, Manchester, on July 25, Mr. Thomas Hulme, retired chemist and druggist, aged seventy-one. Mr. Hulme was apprenticed to the late Mr. John Hulme, of Norwich, his brother, and later was assistant to Woolley, Ltd., and with Mr. Westmacott, of Market Street, Manchester. He then started in business at Pendleton, and was there for twenty-three years prior to 1881.

MATTHEWS.—At 156 Church Road, Hove, on August 1, Mr. John George Matthews, chemist and druggist, aged forty-six.

WHITE.—On August 1, at 30 Hatten Terrace, Sunnyside Road, Ilford, Essex, Mary Ann, widow of the late Mr. Frank White, chemist, of Nottingham, aged seventy-eight.

Recent Will.

KILOH.—Probate of the will of Mr. Edward Petrie Kiloh, of Brighton Villa, Bloomfield Road, Bristol, representative in the West of England, South Wales, and Ireland of Messrs. Heaton, Squire & Francis, Ltd., wholesale druggists, and formerly representative of Messrs. Barron, Squire & Co., and Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., who died at the Howard Hotel, Norfolk Street, Strand, on June 19, aged fifty-eight, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Florence Augusta Beckett Kiloh. The testator's estate has been valued at 1,864*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* gross, and 1,712*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* net.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Cape Colony.

DURING 1904 Austria-Hungary exported 266 cwt. of chemical products to Cape Colony, valued at 571*l.*, which figures compare with 554 cwt., valued at 1,264*l.*, during 1903.

MR. F. POCKLINGTON, formerly with Messrs. Carter, Stacey & Co., of Bloemfontein, O.R.C., has taken over the business lately carried on by Mr. John Fulton, at Alice, Cape Colony.

CAPE FOREIGN TRADE.—According to the figures cabled over by the "Times" correspondent at Cape Town, South Africa is making a slow recovery in the commercial sense. The exports certainly show an improvement, the total given being 29,863,000*l.* for the twelve months ending June last, against 27,019,913*l.* for the previous year. This figure, however, includes gold shipments from the Transvaal to an amount of 18,069,000*l.* or 3,764,000*l.* in excess of 1903-4. The disappointing feature of the returns relates to the imports into the Colony, which total only 19,985,000*l.*, against 27,657,000*l.*, a heavy reduction, for which the trade of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony is responsible as well as that of Cape Colony. It cannot be long now before the import trade takes a turn for the better, seeing that exports are increasing and stocks diminishing.

EUROPEAN PHARMACEUTICAL TRAINING.—A lecture was delivered by Dr. W. Froembling, Cape Town, before the Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony on July 12, entitled "The Chemist's Assistant and his Training on the European Continent (past and present)." The President of the Society was in the chair, and among a small attendance were Mr. A. J. Rivett, of Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., and Mr. Magness Elgar, of Messrs. Martin, Elgar, Ltd. Dr. Froembling received his education in Europe, but since taking his degrees has travelled a great deal. He knows Egypt well, and referred somewhat sarcastically to an article that he had read in the *C. & D.* about certain pharmacies in the land of the Pyramids, declaring the writer to be ill-informed. He has been in South America, speaks most European languages, is probably one of the best educated chemists in South Africa. He did not tell his hearers that he did not agree with the British way of educating pharmacists, but the fact was obvious nevertheless. Were the situation not forced upon him in his business, it is an open question whether the doctor would not adhere to the German idea of conducting a pharmacy. The Britisher, however, wants perfumery and fancy soaps from his druggist; in many cases he buys his tobacco and cigars at the drug store, too, which, of course, is far from the Continental idea. Dr. Froembling drew no comparisons, however, between the Continental pharmacist and his colleague on the other side of the channel. As the many regulations governing pharmacy in Germany were being gone through, probably not one was more of momentous interest to the man at the Cape than that of the Commission that goes round when it pleases and examines all the stock. During the Franco-Prussian war a pharmacist was found supplying medicine that was not up to standard, and he got ten years' hard labour. The doctor considered that it would have been a good thing if something of the kind had happened during the war between Chili and Peru, when the medicines were found sadly lacking in many ways; and he also referred to another war—one recently conducted much nearer home—where stricter supervision would have proved a boon to the chemist who placed the integrity of his profession above all else.

Orange River Colony.

B.P. PROCLAIMED.—The official proclamation of the British Pharmacopœia as a standard for medical prescribing (referred to in last week's issue) appears in the "Government Gazette" of July 7. In the same issue tuberculosis has been officially added to the list of diseases notified as infectious in the Bloemfontein Municipal Regulations.

ADMITTED.—Alexander Rediker, who had passed the Staats examination, Germany, in 1886, applied at the High Court, Bloemfontein, to be admitted to practise as a medical practitioner in the Colony. His application to the medical officer of health to be registered had been refused, and after hearing counsel on both sides the Court granted the order asked for authorising the applicant to be admitted and registered.

Transvaal.

DURING the four months ending April 1905, drugs and chemicals valued at 185,000*l.* were imported into the Transvaal, an increase of 46,000*l.* as compared with the corresponding period of 1904.

TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—We are now able to give portraits of the new officers of this Society. Mr. Charles Keir, who succeeds Mr. R. Butters in the presidency, is manager for Messrs. T. Jolly & Co., one of the

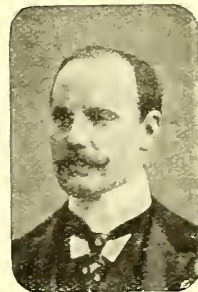


MR. C. KEIR.



MR. A. S. SMITH.

oldest established firms on the Rand. Mr. Keir hails from Stirling, and passed the Minor in April 1892. After that he spent some time in London and three years in India before going to Johannesburg. He served with the British forces through a portion of the South African war. He has been an active member of the Society during his residence in Johannesburg, and is recognised as an authority on the customs regulations, so far as they affect pharmacy. Mr. A. S. Smith, the new Vice-President, is a member of the well-known firm Smith, Rive & Co. He had been a hard-working member of the committee for many years, and before the war was Secretary to the Society. Mr. A. Macdonald, who has been re-elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, is on the staff of Lowenstein, Ltd., Johannesburg. He comes from north of the Tweed, and had his Minor education from Mr. William Duncan, Edinburgh. He then had five years with Messrs. Squire & Sons, Oxford Street, London, before going out to South Africa.



MR. A. MACDONALD.

THE PHARMACY BOARD of South Australia has under consideration many cases of businesses being carried on without duly qualified managers. A scarcity of qualified assistants has existed in Adelaide, but this will speedily be remedied by migrations from the other States.

Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

THE eleventh annual meeting of the Federation was held at the Hôtel Métropole, Brighton, on Friday morning, July 28. There was a good attendance, and interesting discussions on various subjects lengthened the proceedings to nearly three hours. Mr. W. L. Currie, Chairman of the Federation, has been ill for some weeks and was not able to attend the Conference, but he came specially from Glasgow to preside at the meeting. He was supported by Messrs. R. Feaver Clarke (Gravesend), H. Antcliffe (Sheffield), and H. Wippell Gadd (Exeter).

There were present the following accredited delegates :

ABERDEEN.—Mr. W. Giles.
BRADFORD.—Mr. A. Hanson.
CARDIFF.—Mr. A. Hagon.
DOVER.—Mr. R. M. Ewell.
EDINBURGH.—Messrs. W. B. Cowie, J. R. Hill, and W. P. Wilmon.
EXETER.—Messrs. H. Wippell Gadd and J. Hinton Lake.
FORFARSHIRE.—Messrs. John Anderson and Jas. Ford.
GLASGOW.—Messrs. W. L. Currie, R. Brodie, and J. P. Gilmour.
HASTINGS.—Messrs. John Smith and Sidney Smith.
LEEDS.—Messrs. G. W. Worfolk, F. P. Sargeant, and J. H. Beacock.
LONDON.—Messrs. T. H. W. Idris, J. P., W. S. Glyn-Jones, J. C. Pentney, J. Holding, and F. W. Truman.
MANCHESTER.—Messrs. H. Kemp and A. J. Pidd.
MIDLAND.—Messrs. F. H. Alcock, Chas. Thompson, and F. Smith.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Mr. G. Foggan.
NORTH-KENT.—Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.
PLYMOUTH.—Mr. John Barge.
SHEFFIELD.—Messrs. G. T. W. Newsholme, H. Antcliffe, and H. G. Williams.
THAMES VALLEY.—Messrs. A. Higgs, J. P., Fredk. Harvey, and J. Parrot.
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Messrs. S. V. Booth and A. E. Hobbs.

The following gentlemen were also present : Messrs. R. R. Bennett (London), C. A. Blamey (Brighton), H. E. Boorne (Bristol), R. Bremridge (London), T. Evans, A. J. Franklin (Brighton), S. C. Gadd (Exeter), W. H. Gibson (Brighton), W. J. Hallett (Bath), F. B. Kirby (Bristol), J. H. Mather (Godalming), G. F. Merson (Kilmarnock), W. A. H. Naylor (London), E. S. Peck (Cambridge), R. P. Rees (Dowlais), E. Ripley (St. Leonards), R. A. Robinson (London), C. Symes (Liverpool), J. A. Thomas (Cheltenham), J. Twinberrow (Worcester), and John Wild (Manchester).

The Chairman said he regretted extremely the absence of their energetic and esteemed Hon. Secretary, Mr. Watson Will, who, however, is recovering from his recent severe illness.

The minutes of the last meeting at Sheffield having been taken as read, the Chairman presented

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the Executive (see *C. & D.*, July 22, p. 134). In the course of his comments Mr. Currie said that the most serious question that had come up for discussion was that of "breaking bulk" of proprietaries.

Mr. Wippell Gadd (who acted as Secretary) announced that a resolution had, since the printing of the report, been received from the Edinburgh Association regarding "breaking bulk."

Mr. Geo. F. Merson (Kilmarnock) seconded the adoption of the report and accounts, which, after a few remarks from Messrs. Harry Kemp, C. Thompson, J. R. Hill, and G. W. Worfolk, were adopted.

STAMPED MEDICINES.

Mr. F. Harvey (President of the Thames Valley Chemists' Association) then put forward the resolution of which notice had been given :

That an amendment of the Patent Medicine Law is desirable.

He said the Medicine-stamp Act was first introduced in 1783 when the Government was in need of money for war purposes. It seems now to be obsolete and not in accord with present-day requirements.

Mr. Alfred Higgs (Kingston) seconded, and said he was in favour of total repeal of the law.

Mr. Harvey said Thames Valley wished to get the sense of the Association on the question, rather than to put forward any definite suggestions. However, he would suggest as a protective measure that the formula of all proprietary articles be submitted and approved by a Board appointed for the purpose, and a stamp duty charged by the Inland Revenue authorities, based on a sliding scale. Such duty would be 50 per cent. on the difference between the estimated cost of production (exclusive of stamp duty) and the first wholesale charge. Thus an article costing 2*d.*, and selling wholesale at 8*d.*, would be subject to 3*d.* stamp duty; an article costing 3*d.*, selling wholesale at 1*s.* 9*d.*—(laughter)—would be subject to a duty of 9*d.*

Mr. Rutherford Hill proposed, as an amendment :

That in the opinion of the Federation the Medicine-stamp Acts should be repealed.

The Acts had totally departed from their original purpose, he said, which was not to apply to sales of genuine medicines as supplied by registered chemists and druggists. It was a great tax on the people, especially the poor, who had to pay more for medicines which in many cases did them good. He calculated that the total revenue derived from medicine stamps in this country only amounts to one-eighth of a penny on the income-tax. So that the chief objection of the Government to the repealing of the Acts is not a very strong one, and could be easily overcome by a Chancellor of the Exchequer placing one-eighth of a penny on the income-tax and saying nothing about it.

Mr. J. P. Gilmour (Glasgow) seconded Mr. Hill's amendment. He did not see that there was any hope whatever of amending the Acts. They were every year becoming worse confounded, and abolition is the only logical course.

Mr. F. H. Truman (London) was in favour of repeal. Any attempt at amendment would, in his opinion, be only substituting King Stork for King Log. He thought Somerset House would welcome total abolition.

Mr. John Smith (St. Leonards) favoured amendment rather than abolition, and

Mr. George Foggan (Bedlington) said it would be impossible to abolish the tax. In his district they had been endeavouring for years to abolish a poll-tax, but it was no use, and even although only one-eighth of a penny on the income-tax would pay it, he did not see any hope of getting it removed.

Mr. Glyn-Jones contended that it would be wrong to ask the Federation to pass such a sweeping amendment as that suggested by Mr. Hill without the question being submitted to the local associations.

After further discussion Mr. Harvey and Mr. Hill agreed to the following motion :

That the question of abolition or amendment of the Medicine-stamp Acts be referred for discussion and suggestions to the local associations.

This was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Kemp suggested that the Executive be empowered to draw up definite questions to which answers might be given by the associations, but the idea did not find favour, and the matter dropped.

BREAKING BULK.

Mr. J. P. Gilmour brought forward the resolution from the Glasgow Association :

That this Association strongly disapproves of the practice of breaking bulk of proprietaries, and deprecates any further concession tending to facilitate it.

Mr. R. Brodie seconded this, and Messrs. Foggan, John Barge, John Smith, A. Hagon, W. B. Cowie, C. Symes, H. Antcliffe, P. Gilmour, and Sidney Smith spoke, and the motion was agreed to, the Chairman remarking the matter was a ticklish one to deal with, and it appeared to be the prevalent opinion that the Executive should do nothing actively for the present, but should watch proceedings, and try to prevent any further concessions being granted. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

THE PLACE OF MEETING.

Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme submitted the resolution standing in the name of the Sheffield Association :

That this meeting is of opinion that the annual meeting of the Federation should not be held during Conference week, but at a convenient date arranged by the Federation.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Newsholme said he thought it would be advantageous in many ways to arrange the Federation meeting for another date. The Conference week was a hard week, and full justice was probably not done to the work of the Federation when the meeting came on at the tail-end of the Conference. He was not prepared to say when the meeting should be held.

Mr. F. W. Truman seconded. He said the time was inopportune, and the place of meeting should be moved to the Metropolis. The Federation meeting would be so much better for everyone if it took place after the May meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society. ("Question.")

Mr. Feaver Clarke pointed out to Mr. Truman that he had moved at Bristol a resolution similar to that suggested by him, and it was unanimously rejected.

Mr. J. P. Gilmour moved a direct negative. He was surprised that anybody should bring forward such a proposal. "Does any business-man here suppose," he said, "that provincial pharmacists are going to run up to London in May or November specially to attend a meeting of the Federation? ("Ridiculous.") If the Conference does impose labours upon pharmacists, they are not so very oppressive. At least," concluded Mr. Gilmour, amid much laughter, "I have not observed any striking signs of exhaustion."

Mr. Foggan seconded Mr. Gilmour's negative proposition. The present arrangement, he said, was by far the best, and he had not yet noticed that any of the Conference members looked fatigued.

There followed a free exchange of views, Mr. Pentney strongly advocating at least one meeting a year in London. Things got rather mixed at one stage, and Mr. Hill, speaking as an authority on procedure, was fain to dispute the ruling of the Chair as to whether Mr. Gilmour's negative resolution was an amendment to the Sheffield resolution or "the previous question." Ultimately the resolution of Mr. Gilmour was put as an amendment, and was carried by 30 votes to 1.

Mr. Pentney created another diversion by moving an amendment to the effect that the Executive give an undertaking that the Federation meet in London when asked. The Chairman ruled it out of order, but Mr. Glyn-Jones said it was quite in order. After some discussion, Mr. Pentney withdrew his amendment.

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION FOR CHEMISTS.

Mr. J. Hinton Lake, on behalf of the Exeter Association, moved—

That the Federation start a Parliamentary Fund forthwith, in order to secure the services of a direct representative of pharmacy in the House of Commons.

He pointed out that the National Union of Teachers have several Parliamentary representatives, and why not chemists? There are several gentlemen, he believed, directly or indirectly connected with pharmacy, who are available to represent us. As for party politics, he would suggest that two men representing each political party be chosen.

Mr. Wippell Gadd seconded the resolution and drew attention to a series of resolutions passed at the meeting of the British Medical Association then being held. The resolutions were as follows:

1. That the members whose candidature for Parliament is supported by the profession should recognise responsibility to some organised body representative of the profession.
2. That the organised body should be the B.M.A.
3. That the B.M.A. should select two gentlemen—one on each side of politics—and arrange as to their becoming candidates at the next General Election.
4. That financial support should be given to these candidates by definite grants for election expenses.
5. That when the funds of the Association permit of it, the necessary expenditure should be met from the general funds of the B.M.A.
6. That the candidates should be selected as in the scheme for nomination for the General Medical Council.

These resolutions, said Mr. Gadd, showed that it was not considered beneath the dignity of the medical profession to finance an M.P., although some objectors to the present resolution held that it was beneath the dignity of pharmacy. The question of finance would, however, be the stumbling-block, for chemists are hard people to get anything out of. The only way would be for each local association to sub-

scribe at least 10*l.* a year. He believed that the wholesale houses, as represented by their club, would be willing to subscribe something towards a Parliamentary Fund.

Mr. Boorne thought 10*l.* too much. The subscription might better be fixed at 5*s.* or 7*s.* for each member.

Mr. Barge announced that he had received a communication stating that the Plymouth Association had accepted the principle of direct representation and had passed a resolution in favour of the Exeter proposal.

Mr. Hagon inquired whether the fund was intended to pay the prospective candidate's election expenses or to keep him in the House.

Mr. Gilmour was of opinion that the meeting had no right to vote for a motion to start a Parliamentary Fund forthwith. Such a resolution ought to be submitted to local associations for approval before anything was done. He was totally opposed to the scheme, and moved as an amendment that the matter be put before local associations.

Mr. Kemp seconded the amendment.

Mr. T. H. W. Idris (London) said pharmacists would never get any legislative concessions worth speaking of until they had a direct representative in Parliament. He did not think it was exactly desirable to have a paid servant as their member. What was wanted was a young man directly in touch with pharmacy and prepared to give his whole time to his Parliamentary duties. There were many means of ensuring this. It might be a method of reorganising the Pharmaceutical Society, the standing adviser of the Society being their Parliamentary representative. There are many things in Parliament in which wholesale houses and manufacturers are interested, and a fairly direct representative of pharmaceutical interests may be secured. There is no reason why such a representative should not be an extreme party man on either side. But if something is to be done in this direction it should be done quickly. The importance of putting forward a candidate at once is urgent. It is not an orator that is required, but a representative who can influence votes by personal argument. He (the speaker) had some hope that he would perhaps be elected for a Welsh constituency. (Hear, hear and applause.) He did not say this as a sort of begging, because he thought he would not perhaps require assistance from the Federation from any point of view, but he hoped to be able to help pharmacists if he were elected to the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) Another thing not to be lost sight of is the fact that chemists are apt to regard things in rather a petty way. There is a want of broadmindedness sometimes in regarding public affairs, and the first thing chemists ought to do is to become united as to what they really require. He did not think there would be much trouble about funds if all were agreed upon a line of action. (Applause.)

The Chairman then put an amendment, which had been agreed to by Mr. Gilmour, to the following effect:

That it be remitted to the Executive Committee to take immediate steps to consider the best means of dealing with this question, and in order to arrive at such decision the matter be remitted to local associations for immediate discussion.

This was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Glyn-Jones suggested that a profound debt of gratitude was owing to the backers of the Pharmacy Bill, and he thought that local associations in the districts represented by the members who backed the Bill should write offering to give direct and practical assistance to them at the next general election.

Mr. John Holding (London) seconded, and the following motion was passed unanimously:

That local associations should communicate immediately with backers of the Pharmacy Bill and ask what support can be given at the next General Election.

NEW RULE AND OFFICERS.

The Edinburgh Association had given notice of an addition to the rules regarding subscriptions in arrears, but it was not proceeded with.

Messrs. W. L. Currie (Glasgow), R. Feaver Clarke (Gravesend), H. Antcliffe (Sheffield), H. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), and W. Watson Will (London) were re-elected the Executive. Mr. Wippell Gadd acting as Secretary. Messrs. W. S. Glyn-Jones and W. Johnston were re-elected auditors.

Thanks to the Executive, and to the Chairman for presiding, concluded the proceedings.

Chemical Examination of *Aethusa Cynapium*.*

By FREDERICK B. POWER, Ph.D., Director of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, London, and FRANK TUTIN.

Aethusa Cynapium, Linn., or "Fool's Parsley," known also as the "lesser hemlock," in French as "La petite Ciguë," in Italian as "Cicuta minore," and in German as the "Kleiner Schierling," is a well-known annual garden weed, which is indigenous to Europe and Northern Asia, and is the only representative of the genus. The generic name is stated to be derived from the Greek αἰθῦσα, *aithusso*, to make warm, with reference to the acrid taste of the plant.

In all the botanical works that have been consulted which give a description of the *Aethusa*, as also in works on toxicology and many other publications, it is regarded as possessing poisonous properties. Numerous cases of poisoning have, in fact, been attributed to it, and in most of these it appears to have been mistaken for the common garden parsley. On the other hand, the investigations of the plant which have hitherto been recorded, both chemical and physiological, have led to widely differing conclusions respecting its constituents and properties, and thus its reputed poisonous action has alternately been affirmed and denied. It is evidently on account of the recognition or suspicion of its harmful character that the *Aethusa* has received such extended consideration in botanical and medical literature, and as some of the earlier observations concerning it are of interest and importance in connection with the present investigation, the following references to these may be cited:

"The Gardener's and Botanist's Dictionary," by Philip Miller, F.R.S., with additions by Thomas Martyn, F.R.S., vol. i. Part I., London, 1807; "Medical Botany," by Stephenson and Churchill, vol. i., London, 1831; "Medicinal Plants," by Bentley and Trimmen, vol. ii., No. 125; Gray's "Manual of Botany of the Northern United States," sixth edition, p. 205; "American Medicinal Plants," by Millspaugh, vol. i., No. 65; "Medicinisches-Pharmaceutische Botanik," by Luerssen, 1882, Bd. ii., p. 769; "Pharmaceutical Journal," 1880, ii., p. 437, communication by Dr. John Harley; "Lancet," July 7, 1888; "British Medical Journal," July 16, 1904, p. 124.

Although the *Aethusa* appears never to have been subjected to a complete chemical examination, the statements that have been recorded respecting its constituents are quite as divergent as those pertaining to its physiological action (compare Ficinus, "Archiv des Apotheker Vereins im nördlichen Teutschland," xxiv. p. 251, Lemgo 1828, from Kastner's "Archiv xi. 144; Walz, "Neues Jahrbuch für Pharmacie" 1859, Bd. xi. pp. 351-356; Bernhardt, "Archiv der Pharmacie" (3) Bd. xvi. p. 117, Halle 1880, also "Yearbook of Pharmacy," 1880, p. 186; Tanret, in "Les Drogues Simples," by Planchon et Collin, 1896, Tome II. p. 221; and Dorvault's "L'Officine," 1898, p. 376).

Our attention having been directed to the *Aethusa* as a plant which merited a more complete chemical examination than had hitherto been made of it, this was undertaken, and with a twofold object. In the first place, it was evidently desirable that the constituents of the plant should be more precisely determined, and, in the second place, it was hoped that thereby it might be possible to arrive at a correct conclusion respecting its physiological action, which, as we have indicated, has long been a subject of dispute.

The *Aethusa Cynapium* used in this investigation was collected during the months of July and August, at a time when the fruits were fully developed, but still green, as it was then presumed to be in a condition most favourable for the determination of its constituents and properties. It was collected in districts both north and south of London, comprising a somewhat large area, for it was not very abundant in any particular locality. After its collection, each individual plant was carefully examined by a competent botanist, and we had thus the assurance not only of a proper identification, but also of the absolute freedom of the material from any contamination. The leaves of these

plants, when crushed, had a faintly aromatic, herbaceous odour, and were entirely devoid of the disagreeable characters attributed to them in most botanical works. The green fruit, when crushed, differed only in having a somewhat stronger, parsley-like odour.

A quantity of the entire fresh plants, amounting to 135½ lbs. (about 61½ kilos.), was dried in a warm atmosphere, and then weighed 26½ lbs. (12 kilos.), having lost about four-fifths of the original weight.

As a preliminary experiment, 25 grams of the ground dry herb were digested with Prollius' fluid, and evidence of the presence of a very small amount of alkaloid was thus obtained. Both the leaves and the fruit of the curled garden parsley, when tested in the same manner, afforded no reaction for an alkaloid.

In order to determine the constituents of the plant, 11 kilos. of the air-dried material were completely extracted with hot alcohol. This extract was then subjected to a thorough chemical examination, the results of which, together with the conclusions drawn from them, may be summarised as follows:

1. By the distillation of the alcoholic extract with steam there was obtained a small amount of an essential oil, of rather unpleasant odour. When first distilled it was colourless, but rapidly acquired a deep-brown colour. The amount of this oil corresponded to 0.015 per cent. of the weight of the entire fresh plant. The aqueous distillate from which the oil was separated contained a small amount of formic acid.

2. The contents of the steam-distillation flask, after the removal of the volatile substances, consisted of a very dark coloured aqueous liquid, together with a quantity of resin having a tarry consistence. The amount of resin corresponded to 0.8 per cent. of the weight of the entire fresh plant. By extracting this resin with light petroleum (b.p. 40° to 50° C.) a portion was obtained from which, after boiling with an alcoholic solution of potassium hydroxide, were isolated a small amount of a crystalline hydrocarbon, pentatriacontane, C₃₅H₇₂ (m.p. 74° C.), and a crystalline alcohol (m.p. 140° to 141° C., [α]_D²⁰ -35.7°), which is either an isomeride of phytosterol, C₂₈H₄₈O, or a lower homologue. The alkaline liquid from which these crystalline substances had been extracted was acidified with sulphuric acid, which caused the separation of a quantity of soft resin, and the mixture, when subsequently distilled, yielded small amounts of formic and butyric acids. The original resin, after extraction with petroleum, was successively extracted with ether and alcohol. The products thus obtained were fused with potassium hydroxide, and yielded, in both cases, formic, butyric, and protocatechuic acids.

3. From the aqueous liquid separated from the resin, after the distillation of the original alcoholic extract with steam, the following substances were isolated:

A small amount of d-mannitol (m.p. 165° to 166° C.), from which a hexa-acetyl derivative (m.p. 122° to 123° C., [α]_D²⁰ +21.9°) was prepared. The mannitol, when first obtained, was associated with some potassium nitrate and chloride, and could only be separated from these inorganic substances by conversion into its acetyl derivative.

A considerable amount of inactive glucose and amorphous colouring-matter.

An exceedingly small amount of a volatile alkaloid, or possibly a mixture of alkaloids, having the peculiar characteristic odour of coniine, and, like the latter, yielding butyric acid on oxidation (compare "Journ. Chem. Soc.", 1849, 1, p. 361). It was accompanied by a considerable amount of ammonia, which was probably produced for the most part by the decomposition of proteid substances contained in the plant. The amount of hydrochloride of the alkaloid obtained was 0.12 gram from 40 kilos. of the entire fresh plant, which is equivalent to 0.0003 per cent. If the base be regarded as coniine, this would correspond to 0.00023 per cent. of the latter in the plant.

The isolation of a volatile alkaloid from the *Aethusa* may be regarded as of considerable interest, inasmuch as it was stated so long ago as 1859 by Walz (*loc. cit.*) that the fruit of this plant "contains a volatile base, very similar in odour and chemical behaviour to coniine, and probably identical with it." A similar observation was recorded in 1880 by Bernhardt (*loc. cit.*); while, on the other hand, Tanret (*loc. cit.*) has subsequently stated that he could find in the *Aethusa* "neither an alkaloid nor a glucoside, nor any other substance to which a toxic action can be attributed."

It is, however, not only from a chemical point of view, but also from that of the toxicologist, that the verification of the presence of a volatile alkaloid in this plant merits consideration, particularly on account of the conflicting

* Abstract presented at the International Congress of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Liège, July 27, 1905.

opinions which have so long prevailed respecting its reputed poisonous properties (compare, especially, Dr. John Harley, *loc. cit.*). Although the amount of alkaloidal substance obtained from the plant was so small that its identity could not be definitely established by analytical data, a consideration of its physical and chemical characters, such as volatility, tendency to resinify, peculiar odour, and particularly the formation of butyric acid by its oxidation, may reasonably lead to the assumption that it is either coniine or, possibly, a mixture of bases such as is obtained in a similar manner from *Conium maculatum*. Moreover, the amount of volatile alkaloid obtained from 500 grams of the air-dried plant, when administered *per os* to a dog, produced the symptoms characteristic of coniine-poisoning.

The fact that the proportion of alkaloid found by us in the *Aethusa* was so very small, and that the plant apparently contains no other substance to which a toxic action can be attributed, would seem to afford some justification for the conclusion of Dr. Harley (*loc. cit.*) that it is free from the noxious properties which it has been stated to possess. It is quite possible, however, that this conclusion, based upon the results of physiological experiments with the expressed juice of the plant, may only be correct within certain limitations. It has been observed, for example, in the case of *Conium* that it varies in narcotic power according to the weather and climate, being most active in hot and dry seasons and in warm countries (compare "United States Dispensatory," eighteenth edition, p. 447; also Millspaugh, *loc. cit.*).

Notwithstanding the contradictory nature of the statements that have been recorded respecting the properties of the *Aethusa*, and whatever may be the explanation of these discrepancies, there remains the important and positive fact that, in accordance with the observations of earlier investigators, the plant examined by us contained a small amount of a volatile alkaloid resembling coniine in its physical and chemical characters, and, as we have shown, also in its physiological action. In view of this fact it cannot be considered improbable that, under favourable conditions, the proportion of alkaloid may be increased to such an extent as to impart to the plant the poisonous properties ascribed to it.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.), will be esteemed.

- 25/46. Makers or agents for Licorax brand of liquorice?
- 29/11. Name and address of German firm preparing Amadou.
- 26/27. Who are makers or dealers in penny tooth-brushes?
- 29/12. Makers or agents for "Fizz," an American preparation for detecting lameness in horses.
- 23/55. Who are the makers of small circular pocket mirrors with advertising matter on back?

WHERE TO STUDY.

THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS are advertising in this issue:

- South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.
- Westminster College of Chemistry, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.
- Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.
- London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.
- Brixton School of Pharmacy, Brixton Road, S.W.
- Liverpool School of Pharmacy, 6 Sandon Terrace, Upper Duke Street, Liverpool.
- Royal Dispensary, 21 West Richmond Street, Edinburgh.
- University of Birmingham.
- Royal Albert Memorial College, Exeter.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Tabloid Prices.

SIR,—I had a man in my shop to-day who purchased a 100-bottle of B. W. & Co.'s Phenacetin Tabloids for 1s. 1d.; while I was wrapping the article in question he extolled the philanthropic virtues of Mr. H. S. Wellcome. I did not then, nor do I now, dispute the fact, as I believe that gentleman does a great deal of good; and write in the hope that he may divert a little of his philanthropy into another channel—viz., securing for the retailer of his firm's goods a reasonable profit. Personally I do not consider 20 per cent. a fair remuneration, and think the retail price in most instances is far too small. For example, the man who wants 100 aloin co. or phenacetin tabloids could, and would, afford to pay 1s. 6d.; they are cheap enough at that—practically 2d. per doz. The firm create the demand, and we have no alternative but to stock or lose business—a thing we can ill afford to do at the present day; and as the majority of us cannot take 5l. worth we only get 15 per cent. The remedy I would suggest is that B. W. & Co. should fix a more uniform price for tabloids—say, 6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d.—and insist on these prices being maintained, and charge the retailer 3s. 6d., 8s., and 12s. per doz. The firm know of the great dissatisfaction caused by the present arrangement, as their representatives hear constant complaints wherever they go. Were an arrangement similar to the one I suggest adopted, the advantage would be mutual, there being no doubt whatever that B. W. & Co. would sell far more of their preparations than at present.

Yours faithfully,

July 28.

SOUTH COAST. (25/4.)

Who Said "Boycott"?

SIR,—At last I am glad to find that a suggestion has been made that an uncompromising boycott should be made of those "patents that don't pay rent." For many years, in common with other chemists, I have lost money through stocking several so-called leading patents. A little time ago, however, common-sense prevailed, and without waiting for others, I absolutely refused to stock any longer such lines as Seigel's, Horlick's, Carter's, Enos, Clarke's, Williams', and a few others, including Tabloids, explaining to would-be purchasers my reasons for so doing. Then, with the aid of the "Pharmaceutical Formulas" and a good printer, I put up a series of preparations, labelled them well, advertised them locally, filled my windows and counters with them, and am now reaping the reward of my daring in the shape of an increased turnover and largely increased profits. Advertisers may tell the world that the chemist is hopelessly out of date who does not stock their particular nostrum, and to carefully avoid the tradesman who attempts to sell them a preparation other than their own. That game is played out, and no one knows it better than these benevolent gentlemen, who have for so long a time publicly abused, slandered, and made a handle of a body of hard-working and respectable men. Perhaps one or two examples may enable us all to understand the position more clearly. Chemists send an order for 9 dozen Siegel's syrup, which must be accompanied with their cheque for 5l. 3s. 6d. (the smallest order sent carriage paid). This works out at 11s. 6d. net. They pay the stamp, cost of cheque, stationery, lose interest on the money which would be made at the bank, and then retail the syrup at 11½d. per bottle, while Messrs. A. J. White & Co. play with their cash. Then the man who has spent his money, and what is more, the best part of his young life, in order to qualify, is expected to stand twelve or thirteen hours a day behind his counter retailing this out with his best smile! Williams' pills cost 23s. 8d., and are sold at 2s.—

result 4d. profit on a dozen; Eno's costs 21s. 8d., selling price 1s. 9½d., result 2d. gain on a dozen; Clarke's mixture costs 24s., selling price 1s. 11½d., result 6d. lost on a dozen; Kay's essence costs 8s. 10d., selling price 9d., a gain of 2d. per dozen; Fellows' syrup costs 32s. 6d., and retails at 2s. 9d., and the Poison-book has to be signed at that. These are but a few of the crumbs, and I could easily enlarge the list. Why do not chemists wake up? There is not another tradesman in the whole wide world would stand it for one moment. Refuse to touch anything that will not pay you a fair profit, and your results will be similar to mine. Horlick's, Carter's, and many others, after being exploited by the stores, have at length seen their way to come into line, a move they ought to have made years and years ago (thanks to that excellent institution, the P.A.T.A.), and these have again found a place on my shelves. When they are asked for now, and these in common with all other protected articles, they are handed over the counter with a "thank you," and the self-assurance of a profitable sale. I stock all P.A.T.A. articles, feel in honour bound to subscribe to an association such as this, and may just conclude by stating that my patents bill is well over 1,000l. a year. I am the proprietor of half a dozen up-to-date establishments, and I never regret the day I kicked out the "patents that don't pay."

Sincerely yours,

AWAKE. (26/69).

Acid Quinine Hydrochloride.

SIR.—In your report of my remarks on Mr. Garsed's paper *re* acid hydrochloride of quinine, read at the Pharmaceutical Conference, there are one or two small errors which please allow me to correct. Instead of "... has almost replaced the older hydrochloride and sulphate," the report should read: "has almost replaced the older hydrochlorosulphate." A little further on this sentence occurs in the report: "The salt ... when exposed to air takes up some 3 to 4 per cent. of water"; this should read: "... After complete exsiccation at 100° C., on subsequent exposure to air takes up, etc." In speaking of the sample containing a large amount of neutral hydrochloride, the words "4 to 6 per cent." should read "46 per cent."

Yours faithfully,

D. LLOYD HOWARD.

The Exhibition at Leicester.

SIR.—I have read with interest your remarks in last week's *C. & D.* *re* the exhibition in connection with the British Medical Association's annual meeting held at Leicester last week, and I am sure I voice the views of the large majority of exhibitors when I say that the rebuke you administer to the British Medical Association is well deserved. I have heard many of the exhibitors complain—some of them bitterly—of the whole affair. The Drill Hall, to begin with, was unsuitable for such an exhibition; this when coupled with the fact that the buildings in which the meetings were held were situated in different parts of the town, some of them fully a mile distant from the Drill Hall, showed, to say the least, a lack of consideration for the exhibitors on the part of the Association. The B.M.A. charge exhibitors a good round figure for space, and when it is considered that the money so collected goes to defray the expenses in connection with the gathering, I think we have a right to expect some kind of fair treatment.

London, July 31.

AN EXHIBITOR. (26/96.)

Qualified Chemists at all Branches.

SIR.—In your last week's issue, p. 174, you state: "It is not an offence under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, for an unqualified assistant to manage a pharmacy owned by an individual or a company." Should not "individual" be preceded by the word "qualified"? If not, your statement would imply that an unqualified person could do precisely what unqualified companies are doing with such impunity under the cloak of the Companies Act.

Yours faithfully,

O. ROUTLY.

605 Fulham Road, August 2.

[What we said was legally correct. If an unqualified person keeps open shop for the sale of poisons, or assumes the title "chemist," it is an offence on his part, whether a qualified or unqualified person is the manager. An unqualified person may be manager of such a shop, by whomsoever owned, without infringement of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, provided he does not sell poisons. That is an anomalous condition in

Great Britain (not in Ireland) which the Pharmaceutical Council desire to remove by fresh legislation.—EDITOR.]

How Came it There?

SIR.—Can any kind reader account for the presence of a ball of hair, the size of a hen egg, beneath the skin, under a bullock's jaw? When the farrier was called in he found the lump could be moved about under the skin; he made an incision and removed the ball of hair intact, but he is at a loss to explain how it got there. Yours faithfully,

Builth Wells, August 1.

J. WARD.

Counter Humour.

SIR.—Amid the vast amount of mental pabulum, both grave and gay, and the whole extremely interesting, which you have provided for the craft in your Summer Issue, the column "At the Counter" must call to mind many humorous experiences. In the Croydon batch you remark that "Igprigey" "beats us." For why? Surely the one and only translation is *hieria picra*, especially in conjunction with "julop" and "ginger," a frequently called-for trio in these benighted regions. A funny experience of mine sometimes induces the raised eyebrow, nevertheless it has the merit of being perfectly true. A very respectable person of the gentler sex came into the pharmacy on a certain evening. Greeting her with my best smile I inquired how I could serve her. "Do you keep chippy choppy?" I successfully wrestled with a broad smile and said, "Well, I hardly recognise the name, but—" "Oh," said the lady, "perhaps I have made a mistake, it may be choppy chippy!" At this point the apprentice retired to the rear portion of the building to give vent to his feelings. I kept a firm hold of myself and asked what it was for. "Oh, I think it is for children's heads." I suggested at once quassia chips. "Oh, yes, that's it," said the lady, and so a packet of chips and 2d. changed hands. "Aminated spirits" was an order I had once, for methylated. This I sent to "Sub Rosa" of the "Morning Leader," and a couple of very funny paragraphs he evolved from it. These little things I feel sure are sent to balance other experiences that are decidedly not of a humorous nature.

Yours faithfully,

H. M. A. (27/58.)

Letters in Brief.

CUTTING WITH A VENGEANCE.—On Thursday *An Old Chemist* (21/11) bought ½ oz. bismuth lozenges, B.P., from a Weston-super-Mare chemist, and tendered 1½d. in payment. With the sealed packet he returned me the halfpenny. *Cui bono?* asks A. O. C.

Legal Queries.

Chip (18/56).—BLOOD PURIFIER.—It is not necessary to state on the label that the mixture contains arsenic, but it is a poison in Part I. of the Schedule.

Carter (19/24).—If John Smith, who is not a chemist, calls himself chemist, even on a penny packet of violet-powder, he infringes Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

X. Y. Z. (21/58).—It is illegal for an unqualified person to keep open a shop for the sale of poisons, although he has a qualified person in his employment. See the article on Pharmacy Law in the *C. & D. Diary*.

J. L. W. (28/37).—(1) The branch shop clause of the Pharmacy Bill will, when passed, apply to all shops kept open for the sale of poisons, whether owned by chemists or companies. (2) The Dentist Companies Bill refers to titles, and will not prevent the extraction of teeth by chemists.

THE POISONS SCHEDULE.—The "Lancet," in the course of a note, says: "The substances not approved by the Privy Council as additions to the Schedule are acetanilide, soluble salts of oxalic acid, and sulphonal. These are quite ignored by the Privy Council, in spite of the fact that the Departmental Committee on Poisons unanimously recommended the addition of these substances to the Schedule. It may be that the authorities at Whitehall have listened favourably to the objections advanced by interested persons to the inclusion of these substances in the Schedule. Be that as it may, the responsibility will rest with the Privy Council if further fatalities occur through the unrestricted sale of these drugs. The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has exercised its statutory functions in the matter, and has performed a public duty. This is not the first time that a Government department in its wisdom has over-ruled the representations of Departmental Committees and other technical advisers."

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., August 3.

THERE is no perceptible improvement to note in the demand for drugs and chemicals, but the fact that this is the premier holiday month naturally tends to keep matters on the quiet side. In chemicals, sulphate of copper has advanced 15s. in sympathy with copper. English saltpetre has risen a further 6d., and benzols are also dearer. Sulphate of ammonia, on the other hand, is easier. Hyposulphite of soda is still comparatively scarce, and borax is firmer owing to a temporary scarcity of raw material. In fine chemicals quinine is very flat, the large quantities of bark now being sent over from Java establishing records. Citric acid is still very firm, cream of tartar and tartaric acid being steady. German refined camphor has been reduced 1d., and the tendency of camphor generally is easier. Santonin may advance, as raw material is dearer. Among drugs, both ergot and cod-liver oil are both firmer; the Spanish crop of the former article is said to be almost a failure. Belgian chamomiles are selling freely just now: the weather-conditions during the next two or three weeks will materially influence prices this season. Menthol has turned flat, and H.G.H. peppermint oil is lower. The drop in sugar, consequent on the disastrous speculation of a noted French house, has been the principal topic in the Commercial sale-rooms this week. Subjoined are the principal fluctuations of the week:

| Higher | Firmer | Easier | Lower |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Benzols | Coriander | Ammonia | Camphor |
| Cocoa butter | Ergot | sulphate | (German and |
| Copper | Oil, cod-liver | Quinine | Jap. ref.) |
| sulphate | Pimento | (sec. hands) | Cannabis |
| Gamboge | Saltpetre | Senna (Tinn.) | indica |
| Leptandrin | (English) | | Dragon's- |
| Tamarinds | Turpentine | | blood |
| (W.I.) | | | Jalap resin |
| | | | Oil, pepper- |
| | | | mint (H.G.H.) |
| | | | Sugar |

ACID, CITRIC, remains firm at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. for English make and 1s. 3d. for foreign.

ACID, GALLIC.—According to the British Consul at Corsica, the exports of gallic acid from that island last year amounted to 5,184 tons, against 5,615 tons during 1903, a decrease of 431 tons.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Makers report steady deliveries off contracts; prices are unaltered at 11½d. per lb. for English and 10¾d. for foreign.

The exports from Barcelona during 1904 were 842 tons, against 853 tons in 1903 and 240 tons in 1902.

ANTIMONY.—Antimonial preparations are higher, in sympathy with the rise in raw material: thus Antim. crocus is now quoted 49s., and powder 52s., per cwt.; tartrate of antimony in crystals or powder at 11d. per lb. in casks; Antim. sulph. precip. 11d. to 1s. per lb.; potash tartrate 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb., according to quantity and maker. The price asked in the drug-auctions for 20 cases of Japanese crude was 40l. per ton.

BENZOLS are dearer at 9½d. to 9¾d. per gal. for 90-per-cent. and 9d. to 9¼d. for 50-per-cent.

CAMPHOR.—The price of German refined has been reduced by the refiners to 2s. 9¾d., or 1d. lower. In the drug-

auctions several parcels of Japanese refined were offered and mostly bought in, the chief sale referring to 20 cases of ½ oz. for which 2s. 4½d. was paid, and for 5 cases of 1-oz. tablets 2s. 6d. per lb. was paid, without reserve, being 1½d. lower.

The exports of camphor from Canton and Hong Kong to the Continent from January 1 to June 30 have been as follows: 1905, 604 bxs.; 1904, 311 bxs.; 1903, 3,156 bxs.; and 1902, 7,755 bxs. The exports to the U.K. for the first half of 1905 were 125 bxs., against 47 bxs. for 1904.

CANTHARIDES.—New Hungarian flies are quoted 4s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f.

CHAMOMILES.—Prices of Belgian at the moment are tending firmer as hailstorms have damaged the crops in some districts, but the final results greatly depend on the weather during the next few weeks. Meanwhile new flowers are selling freely at from 68s. to 75s. per cwt., according to quality.

CINCHONA.—The N. V. Nederlandsche Veem at Amsterdam reports the shipments from Java to Europe as follows:

| July. | | Amst. lbs. | |
|------------------|-----|------------|--------------------|
| 1905 | ... | 1,431,000 | 1898 ... 1,172,000 |
| 1904 | ... | 1,132,000 | 1897 ... 900,000 |
| 1903 | ... | 1,235,000 | 1896 ... 1,074,000 |
| 1902 | ... | 1,140,000 | 1895 ... 548,000 |
| 1901 | ... | 1,240,000 | 1894 ... 958,000 |
| 1900 | ... | 629,000 | 1893 ... 680,000 |
| 1899 | ... | 940,000 | |
| January to July. | | Amst. lbs. | |
| 1905 | ... | 8,538,000 | 1898 ... 6,089,000 |
| 1904 | ... | 7,330,000 | 1897 ... 4,234,000 |
| 1903 | ... | 7,020,000 | 1896 ... 5,050,000 |
| 1902 | ... | 6,539,000 | 1895 ... 4,316,700 |
| 1901 | ... | 6,457,000 | 1894 ... 4,701,000 |
| 1900 | ... | 4,747,000 | 1893 ... 4,740,000 |
| 1899 | ... | 6,030,800 | |

In the drug-auctions 21 bales of flat yellow bark from Antofagasta were offered, the sound of which (15 bales) had been sold privately; 10d. was wanted for country-damaged; for 17 bales of fair flat sound Calisaya 10d. to 10½d. was paid, damages selling at from 6¾d. to 8½d.; flat Cartagena was bought in at 4½d.; and 11 bales water-damaged Red bark sold at from 2d. to 4d. subject. The auction to be held at Amsterdam on August 24 will consist of 1,013 bales 450 cases Succirubra, 7,148 bales Ledgeriana, and 1,518 bales Hybrid.

COCOA BUTTER.—In auction prices were 1d. per lb. dearer, 350 cases of Cadbury's brand selling at 1s. 1¾d. down to 1s. 1d. per lb. At Amsterdam 10 tons of de Jong were offered, of which 6,600 kilos. were sold at from 65c. to 67c.

COPPER SULPHATE has advanced in sympathy with the metal, the spot price of ordinary brands being 20l. 5s. (a rise of 15s.), and Liverpool makes 20l. 17s. 6d. per ton.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Importers maintain it is not possible to buy 98-per-cent. powder under 78s. and 95-per-cent. powder under 76s. per cwt.

ERGOT is firmer and in more demand. On the spot small sales of good Russian have been made at 1s. 3d. per lb. net, and for Spanish 1s. 5d. has been paid, the latter being now quoted at 1s. 6d., c.i.f., and 1s. 4½d., c.i.f., for Russian. Four bags of small Spanish, slightly wormy, which were catalogued for sale in auction, had been sold privately.

GAMBIER.—Sales of *cubes* have been made at 28s. per cwt.

JALAP RESIN of B.P. quality has been reduced by English makers to 8s., and powder to 8s. 6d. per lb.

LEPTANDRIN has been advanced to 15s. per lb.

MENTHOL.—After advancing up to 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per lb., spot, for Kobayashi on Monday, the market has since turned flat and no business of importance has been done. For arrival, Kobayashi near at hand has been sold at 8s. 6d., and August-December shipment at 8s. 3d., c.i.f. In the drug-auctions 10 cases of Yazawa brand of unworked crystals were limited at 8s. 6d. per lb.

MUSK-SEED.—The exports from Martinique during 1904 were 47,458 lbs. (551l.), against 31,649 lbs. (911l.) during 1903.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR.—The exports of aniseed oil from Wuchow during 1904 amounted to 2,607 cwt., valued at 43,896l., compared with 939 cwt., valued at 15,995l., in 1903.

This article, says the British Consul at Wuchow, shows the largest increase among exports from that port, and "in spite of the efforts of the producers to ruin the trade by adulteration, the demand for the oil, which goes to all parts of the world, is increasing. The price also rose considerably during the year."

OIL, CARAWAY.—Best English distilled oil has been advanced to 6s. per lb.

OIL, CASSIA.—The exports from Wuchow during 1904 were 527 cwt., valued at 8,937l., compared with 8 cwt., valued at 98l. during 1903.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The demand has improved of late and a much firmer feeling has been apparent; finest Norwegian non-freezing oil of good brands has been sold this week at 80s. per barrel, but up to 85s. is asked in some quarters. With the approach of autumn the opinion is that prices will further improve. Stocks of oil in Norway are fairly large, but it is anticipated that the demand will also be large, as dealers hold little stock. Our Bergen correspondent writes on July 31 that the oil-market is firmer and finest non-congealing Lofoten cod-liver oil cannot be quoted below 78s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The available stock outside exporters' hands does not appear to be considerable. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 6,238 barrels, against 4,016 barrels at the corresponding date of last year. In auction 30 barrels of finest new non-freezing Norwegian were limited at 100s. per barrel.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, remains firm at 8½d. per oz. on the spot.

QUININE.—The heavy bark shipments from Java for July have further depressed the market, the consequence being that business continues suspended. At the close to-day 10,000 oz. sold at 9d. spot for good German sulphate.

The landings during July were *nil*, and the deliveries 60,800 oz., making the stock on July 31, 3,018,432 oz., against 3,401,472 oz. in 1904.

SAFFRON.—The exports of saffron from Alicante during 1904 amounted to 15,000 lbs., against 8,000 lbs. during 1903 and 17,850 lbs. during 1902. These quantities, says the British Consul at Alicante, are taken from the Custom-house statistics of this port alone, but further considerable quantities are also forwarded from inland towns by railway to France in transit to other countries. Most of that exported from Alicante is destined to Bombay *via* Marseilles. The British Consul at Valencia in his statement of trade omits the exports from that port.

SALTPETRE.—The price of English is 6d. per cwt. dearer at 24s. for barrels and 25s. for kegs.

SANTONIN.—An advance has been expected in some quarters, and it may take place at any moment owing to the fact that the article is in the hands of a strong monopoly, who have taken advantage of their position to drive up prices to a high figure. The fact that the demand has not been checked or that a substitute has been found to take the place of santonin, is an argument in favour of still higher prices.

SEEDS.—*Canary* is quiet but steady at 69s. per quarter for cleaned River Plate and at 72s. 6d. for Turkish on the spot. A parcel of *Larache* offered at auction last Wednesday was bought in at 75s. *Coriander* is very firm. A few small lots of new-crop Morocco have arrived, for which 45s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. is asked. The market has for the present been cleared of East Indian at from 19s. to 20s. per cwt. *Cumin* sells steadily at 21s. 6d. per cwt. for Turkish, and at 25s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. for common to good Mogador. Dutch *Caraways* are slow of sale at 27s. to 28s. per cwt. on the spot. *Fenugreek* is in only small demand, and prices are unaltered. *Linseed* is in request for fine qualities, but as these are scarce, prices are nominal; the quotation is about 45s. to 50s. per quarter. In the drug-auction 16 bags of East Indian *Dill* seed sold at 13s. 6d.; 17 bags E. I. *Mustard* seed brought 6s. 6d.; 17 bags *Fennel* seed 16s. 6d., and 16 bags *Thyme* seed 5s. per cwt.

SHELLAC.—The spot market remains very firm and full prices have been paid including 180s. for fair TN Orange and Button. For arrival the sales include TN near at hand at 175s. and October-December at 175s., c.i.f.; futures have been quiet, closing easier on Wednesday with sales of TN for October delivery at 180s. The landings in London last

month were 3,053 chests, the deliveries 6,494 chests, and the stock 22,393 chests, against 24,846 chests last year.

SPICES.—Small supplies were offered at the weekly auctions on Wednesday and the demand also proved small. Practically 300 packages of Jamaica were offered, of which only 18 sold at 62s. for good washed, and ordinary washed at 36s. without reserve. A large quantity of Cochin was bought in, including washed rough at 20s. to 21s., and rough Calicut at 24s. All the *Pepper* offered at auction was bought in. Privately Singapore remains firm with spot sales of fair at 5½d. per lb. Fine bold Banca *White* pepper was bought in at 11½d. Privately fair Singapore can be had at 8½d., and fair Penang at 7½d., and for arrival Singapore for August-September shipment is offered at 8½d. per lb., c.i.f. Good bright Zanzibar *Chillies* were bought in at 40s. per cwt.; *Pimento* was not offered, but privately a large business has lately been done, including 2½d. to 2¾d. for fair, but subsequently 2½d. has been paid. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* were both quiet. *Cloves* have been steady; in auction 15 bales of Zanzibar offered and sold at 5½d. per lb. for fair (re-weights); 40 bags of Seychelles offered and sold at 5½d. for ordinary, and half weathered 4½d. to 4¾d.; stems (22) sold at 1¾d. Privately business on the delivery market has been steady, comprising August-October at 5½d., and October-December 5½d., and for arrival October-December shipment has been sold at 6½d., c.i.f., delivered weights.

SUGAR OF MILK.—American make on the spot is practically unobtainable, but for Italian or Dutch make 58s. 6d. to 59s. per cwt. net is quoted. In a recently-issued British consular report on the trade at Lombardy during 1904 the exports of sugar of milk, as shown by the Custom-house of Milan, are as follows:

| | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|
| | Tons | Tons | Tons |
| France | 8 | 12 | 7 |
| Germany | 3 | 14 | 3 |
| United Kingdom ... | 540 | 310 | 498 |
| United States | 1 | 35 | — |
| Other Countries ... | 17 | — | 62 |
| Total | 569 | 371 | 570 |

TEREBENE has been slightly reduced in price, *pure* being obtainable at 1s. 8d. per lb., and less for quantity.

London Drug Auctions.

The approach of the Bank holiday and the general holiday-making, were, in a great measure, responsible for the dull tone which prevailed at to-day's auctions. Cape aloes brought steady prices, and for Curaçao in boxes unaltered rates were paid. Buchu were about steady. For Sumatra benzoin there was little demand. Cubebs sold at easy prices, and there was but little competition for cardamoms, the tendency being easier. Cannabis indica is rather lower, but for cascara sagrada, prices were rather better compared with previous sales without reserve. Japanese camphor was neglected and generally easier. Dragon's blood was in large supply and met with no demand, and the same applies to gamboge, of which only a few cases sold. Jamaica honey is very firm, especially for fine qualities. Ipecacuanha was steady but quiet. Myrrh hangs fire, and stocks are accumulating. H.G.H. peppermint oil suffered a decline of 1s. 3d. to 2s., and for eucalyptus oil rather easier prices were accepted. Florentine orris sold cheaply, and for rhubarb there was little inquiry. Sarsaparilla was firm generally. Prices for Tinnevely senna, apparently of the new crop, tended easier. West Indian tamarinds sold at higher prices, but common tonka beans were slaughtered. Jamaica and Zanzibar bees' wax brought previous rates. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold, the asterisk denoting those sold privately:

| | Offered | Sold | | Offered | Sold |
|-------------------|---------|------|---------------------|---------|------|
| Agar-agar | 10 | 0 | Ambergris | 2 | 0 |
| Ajowan-seed | 16 | 16 | Annatto ext. | 1 | 0 |
| Aloes— | | | Annatto-seed | 34 | 0 |
| Cape | 63 | 63 | Antimony (Jap.) ... | 20 | 0 |
| Curaçao | 70 | 70 | Balsam— | | |
| Socotrine | 15 | 0 | Copaiba | 1 | 0 |
| Zanzibar | 10 | 10 | Peru | 3 | 0 |

| | Offered | Sold | | Offered | Sold |
|--------------------------|---------|------|-------------------------|---------|------|
| Balsam, Tolu | 13 | 0 | Oil— | | |
| Benzoin— | | | cajuput | 1 | 0 |
| Palemambang | 21 | 0 | cod-liver | 35 | 0 |
| Saigon | 16 | 0 | cinnamon | 3 | 0 |
| Sumatra | 102 | 22 | citrouella | 85 | 0 |
| Bird-lime (Jap) | 100 | 0 | eucalyptus | 26 | 13 |
| Buchu | 71 | 3 | neroli | 1 | 1 |
| Calumba | 25 | 0 | patchouli | 2 | 0 |
| Camphor— | | | peppermint— | | |
| China | 25 | 0 | H.G.H. | 33 | 33 |
| German (ref.) | 2 | 0 | Japanese | 9 | 0 |
| Japanese | 92 | 25 | rose | 3 | 0 |
| Canella alba | 20 | 0 | wintergreen | 1 | 0 |
| Cannabis indica | 17 | 5 | Olibanum | 55 | 0 |
| Cardamoms | 288 | 130 | Orange-peel | 32 | 8 |
| Cascara sagrada | 320 | 220 | Orchella-weed | 27 | 0 |
| Cascarilla | 17 | 0 | Orris | 100 | 95 |
| Cashew nuts | 17 | 0 | Patchouli-leaves | 24 | 0 |
| Cassia fistula | 6 | 0 | Puree | 2 | 0 |
| Castorium | 1 | 0 | Putcha-leaves | 21 | 0 |
| Cinchoua | 140 | 56 | Quassia chips | 67 | 0 |
| Coca-leaves | 16 | 6 | Quillaia | 76 | 0 |
| Cocculus ind. | 29 | 0 | Quince-seed | 2 | 0 |
| Colocynth | 9 | 9 | Rhatany | 17 | 0 |
| Crotou-seed | 40 | 0 | Rhubarb— | | |
| Cubets | 72 | 5 | Chinese | 72 | 20 |
| Cumiu-seed | 17 | 0 | English | 30 | 30 |
| Cuttle-fish bone | 122 | 16 | Sarsaparilla | 40 | 30 |
| Dill-seed | 16 | 16 | Scabiae | 45 | 0 |
| Divi-divi | 2 | 0 | Seedlac | 26 | 0 |
| Dragon's-blood | 47 | 2 | Senna (Tinnevely) | 418 | 392 |
| Ergot | 4 | *4 | Soy | 39 | 0 |
| Fennel-seed | 17 | 17 | Squill | 18 | 0 |
| Gamboge | 27 | 5 | Tamarinds— | | |
| Guaiacum | 3 | 3 | W.I. | 66 | 39 |
| Gum arabic | 2 | 0 | E.I. | 115 | 0 |
| Honey— | | | Tonka-beans | 24 | 16 |
| Australian | 20 | 0 | Turmeric | 529 | 37 |
| Jamaica | 229 | 157 | Vermilion | 5 | 0 |
| Insect flowers | 20 | 0 | Wax (bees')— | | |
| Ipecacuanha— | | | Australian | 14 | 0 |
| Rio (Matto Grosso) | 22 | 3 | East Indian | 51 | 15 |
| Kamala | 5 | 0 | Jamaica | 33 | 18 |
| Lime-juice | 22 | 11 | Madagascar | 10 | 0 |
| Manaca-root | 10 | 0 | Spanish | 20 | 10 |
| Menthol | 10 | 0 | Zanzibar | 220 | 30 |
| Mustard-seed | 15 | 15 | Wax, Carnauba | 3 | 0 |
| Myrrh | 70 | *5 | Japanese | 14 | 0 |
| Nux vomica | 103 | 8 | Zedoary-root | 8 | 0 |

ALOES.—A parcel of 70 boxes *Curaçao* sold without reserve at steady prices, including good liver at 34s. to 35s.; fair darkish liver, 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d.; dark and slightly coarse, 22s. to 23s.; capey, turning livery, 20s.; and damaged at 15s. per cwt. *Cape* were in good demand at slightly irregular but fully previous prices, fair to good bright hard selling at from 26s. to 27s.; slightly dullish and softish also sold at 26s. 6d., good seconds, slightly softish 24s. to 25s., fair seconds slightly drossy 22s. to 23s., and common drossy and livery 18s. to 21s. A nondescript lot of ten cases of Zanzibar sold at from 13s. to 21s. for common to fair hepatic, with a large preponderance of skins.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—For cloudy Maranhan balsam 1s. 6d. per lb. was wanted.

BALSAM TOLU.—For fair, slightly softish in large tins 10d. per lb. was wanted, and 9d. to 9½d. for slightly drossy and softish. A bid of 8½d. is to be submitted for four cases of slightly drossy.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra was quiet and unchanged. About a dozen cases of medium almond seconds, well packed, with small to medium almonds sold at from 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 10s. per cwt.

BIRD-LIME.—A large quantity of fair Japanese was limited at 7d. per lb.

BUCHU-LEAVES.—A large quantity was offered but good quality is scarce. Two bales of round leaf mixed with ovals sold at 4½d. per lb. Good greenish round leaves (1 bale) sold at 6d. per lb. subject. There is plenty to be had at this figure.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Lower on sales without reserve. Two cases of sittings sold at 2s. 7d. per lb., and for three cases of greenish unclipped tops from 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d. was accepted, also without reserve. A further four cases of good greenish clipped tops were limited at 4s. 3d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS.—The offerings evoked little or no competition to-day and prices generally showed an easier feeling, the following rates being paid: Ceylon-Mysore, medium size, round, smooth, extra well bleached, 1s. 7d.; good bold pale 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d., bold palish split 1s. 3d., good medium pale round 1s. to 1s. 1d., small and medium pale 10d., small pale 8½d. to 9½d., small to bold mixed, split 9½d., very small pale 7½d., brown and split 8d. to 8½d., seed 10d. to 10½d., Ceylon-Malabar, small brown 6½d., without reserve. A pile of fair Ceylon-Malabar was limited at 10½d. per lb.; seven cases of small heavy greenish Aleppy were passed over without mention of price. For pale Bombay decorticated seed 11d. was refused, and a further lot of 12 cases good was held at 1s. 2d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Three hundred bales of coarse and rough 1903 crop were offered and sold without reserve at from 29s. to 30s. per cwt. gross for net, no discount, and a further 100 bags of the same consignment were bought in.

COCA-LEAVES.—Six cases of ordinary shrivelled and slightly country-damaged Ceylon sold at 11d. per lb., and 10 bales of thin broken greenish Truxillo were offered, for which 10d. was wanted.

COLOCYNTH.—A new parcel of 9 cases Turkey sold at 1s. 2d. per lb. to 1s. 2d. "subject" for fair pale apple.

CUBEBS.—Five bags of ordinary brown stalky berries from Calcutta were disposed of at 25s. per cwt. subject; fair bluish but slightly stalky berries were limited at 27s. 6d., and for another lot of 61 bags good clean sifted from Singapore the broker stated the limit had been raised to 35s.

CUTTLEFISH-BONE.—Eleven mats of small broken pale bone sold at from 2d. to 2½d. per lb. without reserve, and for another lot of 5 casks of small broken 3½d. was paid.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD was in large supply and neglected. The only transaction referred to two cases of very drossy lump, for which 6l. 5s. was paid. For good bright re-boiled lump 9l. 10s. was wanted.

GAMBOGE.—Higher; a case of fair Siam and Saigon mixed pipe, damp and blocky, of bright to dull orange fracture, sold at 14l. 5s. per cwt., and for two cases of fair, blocky, partly false packed 14l. was paid, a case of pickings going at 13l. 12s. 6d. for good, and 12l. 10s. for common pickings.

GUAIACUM.—Two barrels fair glassy block sold without reserve at from 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb., and for a barrel of slightly drossy 7d. was paid.

HONEY.—Jamaica sold at very firm prices, especially fine qualities. Good liquid bright amber Jamaica in barrels and casks, 20s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt.; dark to fair amber liquid, 18s. to 20s.; brown set and setting, 16s. 6d. to 18s.; common dark brown liquid in casks and cases, 16s. per cwt., and set yellow 16s. to 20s.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—Old dull closed Dalmatian flowers from Fiume were held at 80s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Steady but quiet. The few bales that were disposed of realised brokers' valuations. Lean wiry and dull Rio (Matto Grosso) sold at 5s. 2d., and common woody and small dusty root at 5s. The bulk of the offerings, however, were held for 5s. 6d. per lb. No other description was catalogued.

LIME-JUICE.—Nine puncheons of raw Jamaica sold at 11d. per gal., and for a further two puncheons 1s. was paid.

MYRRH.—Supplies are accumulating and with the poor demand prices are tending easier. In auction five packages had been sold privately.

NUX VOMICA.—Several offers were refused for Madras seed, 10s. to 10s. 6d. being the buying-in price for fair bold bright Madras to small ditto. Eight bags from Bombay sold at 8s. for fair bright bold.

OIL, CINNAMON-LEAF.—For 3 cases of Ceylon 2½d. per oz. was wanted.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Six cases analysing 65 per cent. cineol sold cheaply at 1s. per lb., and a bid of 1s. is to be submitted for seven cases of the Magnet brand. In another instance 10 cases of oil containing 72 to 73 per cent. cineol had been sold at 1s. 1d. privately, and for a further 10 cases written in 1s. 1d. was wanted.

OIL, NEROLI.—One bottle sold without reserve at 11½d. per oz.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—In sympathy with menthol higher prices were paid early in the week, but subsequently the market turned flat. Kobayashi on the spot has been sold at from 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. per lb., and for arrival the business includes August-October shipment at 4s. 3d., c.i.f., Suzaki at 3s. 10½d., and Yazawa for August-December shipment at 3s. 9d., c.i.f. In auction 33 cases of American HGH offered and sold without reserve at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. 3d. per lb., being from 1s. 3d. to 2s. lower; 9 cases of Japanese dementholised were held at 4s. 6d.

OIL, WINTERGREEN.—The case of East Indian offered is referred to below.

ORANGE-PEEL.—Fair palish gelatine Maltese strip was limited at 6d. per lb.; 2 cases of slightly off colour were disposed of at 5d., dullish and over-heated being obtainable at 4d.; several bags and cases had been sold privately.

ORRIS.—A parcel of 95 bags was disposed of very cheaply without reserve at from 17s. to 18s. per cwt. for fair Florentine sorts, and for 15 bags of fair Verona 14s. was paid.

RHUBARB.—The only sales in auction comprised four cases of small to medium round horny High-dried of poor coat and poor fracture, for which 9d. per lb. was paid. For two cases of bold flat Canton slightly wormy and of poor coat with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, a bid of 1s. 1d. is to be made. Five cases of small to bold flat High-dried, which is very scarce, were limited at 1s. 2d., a bid of 1s. 1d. being refused. A new lot of 30 bags small cubes English rhubarb sold at 3½d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Firm. Six bales of Lima Jamaica in original wrappers and packing (unworked) were offered, of which one sold at 1s. per lb. for coarse; fair was held at 1s. 3d. The article is scarce privately. Jamaica also sold at firm and unchanged rates, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 3d. being paid for fair grey to slightly coarse root, and 1s. 2d. for common.

SENNA.—The principal offerings of Tinnevely to-day were said to consist of new crop, but if so, quality was very poor; the moderate quantity of pods offered somewhat dispels the new-crop theory. Prices were about ¼d. per lb. easier, there being little competition. The following rates were paid: Tinnevely, fair to good bold greenish partly specky leaf 2½d. to 3d., small and medium greenish 1½d. to 1¾d., and small ordinary yellowish and specky and damaged 1d. to 1¼d. Pods, dark to fair 1¼d. to 1½d. per lb.

TAMARINDS.—West Indian sold at dearer rates, from 13s. 6d. to 14s. per cwt. being paid for fair Antigua in bond; squashy Barbados were bought in at 15s.

TONKA-BEANS.—For 15 bags offered without reserve 4d. per lb. was paid, the parcel being very common and part foxy Para; another case of rather better quality realised 6d.

TURMERIC.—Fair Madras finger has been sold on the spot at 17s., and fair to good split Cochinn bulbs have been taken at 8s. In auction 11 bags of fair bright finger sold at 17s. 6d., and for slightly wormy bulbs 12s. 6d. per cwt. was paid. Twenty-two bags Madras bulb were taken at 14s.

WAX, BEES.—Jamaica sold at firm prices, 7l. 15s. to 7l. 17s. 6d. being paid for fair to good red and brown wax. Five cases of dull bleached Calcutta were disposed of at 7l. 5s., and for various parcels of unsorted Bombay from 6l. 2s. 6d. to 6l. 5s. was paid. Eight bales of good red Spanish sold at 6l. 7s. 6d., and for bleached Spanish 7l. 10s. was wanted. Zanzibar was steady, good pale bright even brown selling at 6l. 15s. per cwt. No Madagascar was sold; a bid of 6l. 15s. is to be submitted for fair; good brown block was bought in at 7l. per cwt.

WAX, JAPAN.—For dullish squares the limit in auction was 52s. 6d. per cwt. Privately the market is firm, the business comprising 50 cases at 48s., c.i.f., for July-August shipment, and for August-October shipment 50s. 6d., c.i.f. Hamburg, has been paid, but for August-September shipment 49s. 9d. to 52s. is quoted, according to shipper.

East Indian Wintergreen Oil.

At the drug-auction to-day a case of wintergreen oil ex *Clan Grant* from Calicut was offered. It was certified by Mr. E. J. Parry to be genuine wintergreen oil, and the results of his analysis were as follows: "Sp. gr. at 15° 1.1864; optical rotation, 088°; boils at 217° to 224°; soluble in 6 vols. of

70-per-cent. alcohol at 23° C. These are the characters of a pure oil distilled either from *Gaultheria procumbens* or *Betula Lenta*." This is the first occasion on which Indian-distilled wintergreen has been offered in this country, and the source is altogether new. The oil was of the usual brownish-yellow colour, but the agreeable odour which marks the American oil was less pronounced in the sample; indeed an expert characterised the flavour as "weak." The package was sent over as a trial shipment, and the highest obtainable bid in auction was 4s. per lb. (which is to be submitted), a price that will hardly encourage further shipments.

French Carbide of Calcium.

The principal centres of the calcium carbide industry in France are in the Alps and the Pyrenees, particularly in the environs of Bellgarde, Grenoble, Nice, and Toulouse. At present there are eleven factories capable of producing 40,000 tons of calcium carbide annually. The demand is far from corresponding to the means of production, and the total output sold during 1904 may be closely estimated at 18,000 tons. The French makers are completely protected against importations by the Bullier patent, and manufacturers of carbide and of acetylene have reached an understanding whereby an average price has been established which enables both industries to exist. Carbide makers are said to lower their prices every time they are able to do so without inconvenience to themselves.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is a slight improvement to be noted in the heavy-chemical market, and a fair business is being done on both home and export account. Prices remain practically without fluctuation from recent figures.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—A good all-round demand for main products is being experienced, and bleach and caustic soda are firm. Hyposulphite of soda still continues on the scarce side.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is dull, and prices are lower. Beckton 12l. 10s., Beckton terms 12l. 5s., London 12l. 7s. 6d., Leith 12l. 5s. to 12l. 6s. 3d., and Hull 12l. 2s. 6d.

ALUMINA-PRODUCTS.—The consuming trades, as paper-makers, etc., being well employed, general demand is good and values are well maintained. Deliveries against contracts are somewhat above an average. Crystal alum, lump 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton, lump in t'ceves 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s., and ground in bags 5l. 10s. to 5l. 15s. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities and practically free of iron, 4l. to 4l. 10s. per ton for ordinary strength in casks, with customary allowances for bags and loose slabs and usual extras for higher strengths; aluminous cake 50s. to 55s. per ton; alumino-ferrie 50s. to 60s., in accordance with delivery, package, and condition. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength Al₂O₃, 12l. to 12l. 10s. per ton in large casks. Special pulp hydrate of alumina 15s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt.; pulp, dried in lump 37s. 6d. to 38s., and ground 38s. to 38s. 6d. Aluminate of soda, high strength Al₂O₃, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., and second quality 12s. to 13s. Carbonate of alumina 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, August 2.

CASTOR OIL.—Stocks still continue in small compass; a small trade is passing at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. For shipment, sellers are firm at 3½d. First pressure French is unchanged at recent quotations.

SULPHATE OF COPPER is very firm at 21l. per ton for prompt delivery and 22l. for next year.

GUM ARABIC.—There has been further business at advanced rates.

TURPENTINE is steady at 45s. per cwt.

LINSEED OIL is offered at 18s. 9d. per cwt. naked.

QUILLAIA-BARK remains unchanged at from 16l. 15s. to 17l. per ton on the spot.

FENNEL-SEED.—There have been sales of Indian on the spot at 15s. per cwt.; for shipment, 16s. is wanted.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Bombay seed is offered for shipment at 8l. 10s. per ton ex quay.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, August 1.

Business generally is quiet. Only a few articles show any animation, such as

MENTHOL, which is firmer on account of "bears" covering, and 17m. has been paid for spot.

PEPPERMINT OIL has not been influenced seriously. Japanese was firmer, but now shows a quieter feeling.

CAMPHOR has been reduced by our makers to £25m. for refined.

LYCOPodium shows a difficult business, and prices are declining.

ERGOT has advanced a little to 270m.

CLOVES show an improving tendency.

ORITM is much firmer at 20m.

HYDRASTIS is lower at 12½m.

SUGAR OF MILK is quiet at 115m.